

Steacie Fellowships times two

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It's a 'buyer beware' higher-education online market

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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Latest medical cyber-info reaches ER front lines

Unique computer database provides quick answers to crucial questions, helping health professionals save lives

By Geoff McMaster

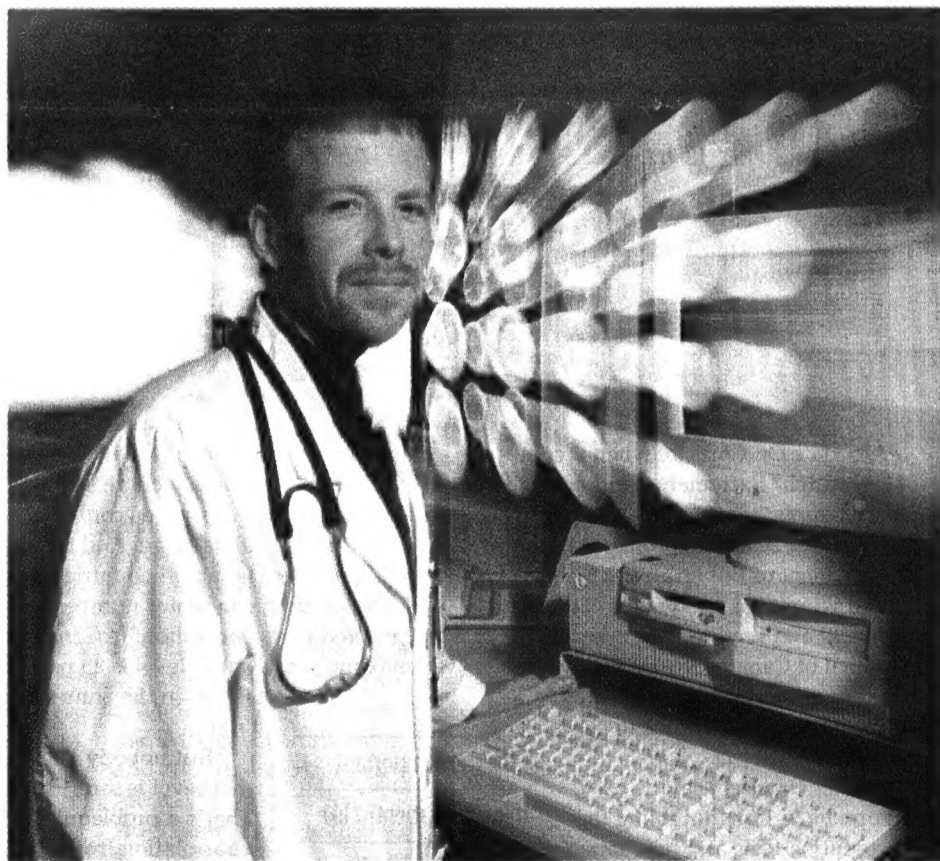
Second-year resident Dr. Darren Markland was on call late one night at the University of Alberta Hospital when a woman was rushed into the emergency room. She was suffering from a rare syndrome that causes the immune system to attack the body's red blood cells when exposed to the smallest of infections. In this case, a head cold sent the patient spiraling into crisis.

To make matters worse, Markland had never before seen this condition, called paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria. He was unable to reach the staff hematologist, and none of the manuals he consulted contained any useful information. The last thing he wanted to do was take the patient to the intensive care unit, since she'd stand only about a 50 per cent chance of coming out alive.

"When [patients with this syndrome] get sick, there's a critical period of time when you can actually intervene and help them," he says.

To the rescue was one of the emergency ward's new CLINT (clinical integrator) computer stations, a technology that allows physicians and nurses to quickly access the most up-to-date medical research while on the job. Markland was able to find the syndrome and its treatment: a blood transfusion, oxygen and re-hydration. Within minutes, the patient's deteriorating condition had turned around and she was stabilized.

Markland's case, however, is just one example where getting the right evidence-based information in a hurry proved to be a matter of life and death. Since last September, the Centres for Health Evidence (CHE)—a \$1-million demonstration



Markland: using the latest, potentially life-saving medical research on the job in the emergency room.

project funded through Canada's Health Infrastructure Support Program—has been helping health professionals make crucial decisions when every second counts. The computer network draws knowledge-based software and literature from a number of public and private sources, organizing it in a useful way.

The U of A-based CHE covers adult health and is currently limited to the general internal medicine and emergency

wards at the University of Alberta Hospital. Also participating are the faculties of nursing and business, the Capital Health Authority and InfoWard Inc., a company started by the project's principal investigator, Dr. Robert Hayward, and others to commercialize the technology. A complementary CHE covering child health is located in the pediatrics ward of the Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre and run from a central database here. If all goes

well, these two centres will form part of a network of CHEs developed in Hamilton and Toronto, which would eventually reach across the country.

"This system allows [doctors and nurses] to have their lab results on the same computer as the *New England Journal of Medicine*," says project co-ordinator Tracy Stewart. "If we train them how to search these resources, then everything's right there for them." And because the technology is available over the Internet, health professionals can reach it from anywhere.

In a world where medical research is published too fast for anyone to keep up, moving that information to the front lines, says Stewart, is a growing challenge. "There's all that research that academics pump out, and libraries are filled with information," she says, "but often it never makes it to the wards where people are making decisions."

What distinguishes this system from others on the Internet, says Hayward, is its ability to discriminate. "There's information hunger in the midst of plenty, because there's so much stuff out there," he says. The Centres for Health Evidence project separates the "good stuff from the junk."

For Markland's part, he says if he doesn't have to spend all his time wading through a "plethora" of research, he's able to focus his attention where it belongs.

"It's part of redefining what we're supposed to know as doctors," he says. "Once the physician learns how to incorporate the old art of medicine with the new art of asking the right questions... things become a lot easier for the physician to focus on the patient." ■

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2000

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U of A lands two of four Steacie Fellowships for 2000

Stories by Dan Rubinstein



2000 Steacie Fellowship winners Drs. Wayne Grover and Chris Le: a national boost for their research

Tina Chang

'Self-healing' networks guru aims for stronger global research links

It was late December and the University of Alberta's Dr. Wayne Grover was diligently working away on his long-promised new book.

Thanks to a few days of relative solitude, the electrical and computer engineering professor was in the midst of a good run. The ideas and words were flowing. Then the phone call came.

"Suddenly," recalls Grover, sounding a little surprised even today, "the president of NSERC was calling me at home."

At the other end of the line was Dr. Tom Brzustowski, head of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. He phoned Grover to inform him that he'd won an NSERC Steacie Fellowship, one of the country's most prestigious and valuable research prizes.

"I was really taken aback," says Grover, who's been on sabbatical since July and filed his Steacie application in June, his final deadline before beginning his leave. "Dean David Lynch was the driver to get me to apply under his nomination, but I honestly expected not to hear about the Steacie again after that."

With the \$180,000 over two years that comes with the fellowship, plus a chance to apply for a substantial supplementary NSERC grant, Grover will be free to pursue his research "all out" after he returns from his leave.

That work, in the emerging field of "self-healing" networks which can survive physical failures through fast, efficient, self-organized reconfiguration—and the theory for their optimal design—will probably send Grover all over the world. Universities and institutes in Europe, the U.S. and beyond are diving into this important area of study and he wants to forge stronger links.

Before Queen's University's Dr.

Norman Beaulieu was awarded one of the four annual fellowships in 1999, it had been 14 years since an engineer won a Steacie. Now it's two years in a row. Not that the recognition is primary for Grover. For him, it's the practical opportunities to accelerate the research and disseminate it more actively that are significant.

"This is not just one I can put on a shelf," says the past winner of an Alberta Science and Technology Foundation Award, who also serves as chief scientist of network systems research at TRLabs. "The TRLabs environment is unique," he says. "It lets us do the academic deep thinking and take our time to persist for years with difficult problems, but it also allows us to remain close to what's happening in industry and see our progress transferred out to them."

According to Roger Pederson, the vice president and director of Edmonton operations for TRLabs, Grover's ability to understand the fundamental applications of a technology is one of his strongest assets.

"Wayne can look at problems in different ways and figure out what the basic issues are," says Pederson. "That's the reason he stands out from the crowd."

"The things that impress me most," adds Dave Morley, one of Grover's PhD students, "are his background and industry experience. He always brings a practical element to the work and is able to relate the theory back to the real world."

Dr. Wayne Grover received his bachelor's degree from Carleton University, his master's from the University of Essex and his doctorate from the University of Alberta. After holding a series of senior research positions in the telecommunications industry, he joined the University of Alberta faculty in 1992, becoming a full professor in 1995.

folio

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The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including Folio and New Trail, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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Two researchers at the University of Alberta, engineer Wayne Grover and chemist Chris Le, landed the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's Steacie Fellowships for 2000.

The fellowships, announced Feb. 8 by Dr. Gilbert Normand, Secretary of State (Science, Research and Development) and Dr. Tom Brzustowski, NSERC president, are awarded to outstanding Canadian university scientists or engineers who have earned their doctorate within the last 12 years.

Nominations are received from universities across Canada and only four awards are made annually.

The Steacie Fellowships will be presented to Drs. Grover and Le, along with Dr. André Charette, Université de Montréal and Dr. Bruce Balcom, University of New Brunswick, in Ottawa this fall.

Here's a closer look at these exceptional U of A researchers.

Arsenic investigator wants to focus on water research

Just how dedicated is the University of Alberta's Dr. Chris Le when it comes to his research? Extremely—and here's a perfect example:

Ask the associate professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences about winning a prestigious Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Steacie Fellowship, one of four handed out nationally each year, and he's quick to change the subject.

After concisely saying how happy he is, how humbling the recognition feels and how much opportunity it provides, Le smoothly shifts into talking about the specifics of his work. This is an understandable segue. It's because of the importance of his research that Le is so driven.

The analytical chemist and his collaborator, Dr. Michael Weinfeld of the Cross Cancer Institute, received publicity last year for developing a new technique that can detect one damaged DNA base in a billion healthy ones. But now, Le plans to use the extra funding and freedom that comes with the Steacie to concentrate on his other main area of interest: the characterization and impact of arsenic compounds in our water and food.

"Arsenic has been a known poison for many centuries," he explains. "Recently, the most serious issue has been the poisoning now happening in places like India and Bangladesh, where hundreds of thousands of people are showing symptoms of chronic arsenic poisoning. It's caused by

consumption of high natural levels of arsenic in well water for many years."

Those symptoms include skin, bladder and lung cancer as well as cardiovascular and neurological damage. And they're not just a problem in far-off countries, where levels of arsenic in water number several hundred parts per billion. In Canada the maximum allowable level is 25 parts per billion, in the United States it's 50.

"But nobody knows what level is safe," says Le. "That's a problem. And extrapolation from high to low-level exposure carries huge uncertainty."

When the \$180,000 from NSERC kicks in over the next two years, freeing him from teaching responsibilities, and with additional funding he'll likely secure through an NSERC supplementary grant, Le intends to work on measuring arsenic exposure more reliably and study low-level exposure to different arsenic compounds present in our water and food.

"It's a worldwide issue," he says, "and it'll be nice to concentrate on the research for a while. It's an opportunity to explore areas I wouldn't otherwise have had a chance to."

And that's a big step for a scientist, says Le's colleague, Dr. Steve Hrudey, director of the university's environmental health sciences program.

"It only seems logical," says Hrudey, "that having these additional resources

will lead him to a lot of other valuable breakthroughs. The most important thing for a scientist like Chris is providing him with the capability to innovate. You want to allow him to do the things he does best."

Dr. Chris Le carried out his undergraduate studies in China. He received his master's degree from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ont., and his doctorate from the University of British Columbia. He has been a faculty member at the University of Alberta since 1995.

NSERC STEACIE FELLOWSHIPS 1992-2000

TOP 10 UNIVERSITY RECIPIENTS

Toronto	9
Alberta	7
BC	4
McGill	3
Queen's	3
Montreal	3
Dalhousie	1
Laval	1
McMaster	1
Saskatchewan	1
Victoria	1
Waterloo	1
New Brunswick	1
TOTAL:	36

It's a 'buyer beware' higher-education online market

As the borderless choices increase, Canadians have a plethora of post-secondary options in the online world

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

Deep as we are in the age of internationalism and consumerism, the desire for choice and the hunger for borderless service has become a virtual mantra, even in the educational sector.

Traditional providers of Alberta post-secondary education, both private and public, are facing competition from non-resident institutions and virtual universities aggressively offering non-traditional course options. The University of Phoenix, for example, is an American institution offering online distance learning and flexible face-to-face seminar-style courses. With about 7,000 students, the University of Phoenix claims to be the largest online degree-granting program in North America. It already boasts a Vancouver campus and is negotiating with the Alberta government to open a second one in Calgary.

Contemporary conventional wisdom speaks of the fitness of the market and reassures that this competition can only be a good thing for Alberta students in the long run, yet nagging questions linger. Will quality be a casualty of choice? Will for-profit attitudes erode the core values of traditional liberal education? Are students well served by these new programs? What needs exactly are being met?

Dr. Craig Swenson, senior regional vice-president, northwestern region of the University of Phoenix, says his school is enjoying a 25 to 30 per cent annual growth because it is meeting a real, specific need: offering courses appealing to the contemporary working population who don't want to take long periods of time off to go to school. Swenson says you have to be at least 23 years old to be admitted to the University of Phoenix, a publicly traded subsidiary of the Apollo Group Inc., a private American corporation specializing in adult education, which will initially offer courses leading to degrees in business and management. Annual tuition for the University of Phoenix's Calgary programs is steep, ranging from \$8,500-\$10,500 (Cdn) per year, in line with its more affluent target audience and several thousand dollars a year more than Alberta's public universities.

His institution, he adds, is fully accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in the United States (its home jurisdiction).

"We're excited to move into Calgary," Swenson tells me in a phone interview from his home in Utah. "Why Calgary? Well, when you think of Calgary and Alberta you think of entrepreneurial, business-focused, expansive, active. We're that kind of institution." With 200 students in Vancouver, Swenson hopes to see as many students enrol in Calgary as well. "We feel there is a need there."

The University of Phoenix also falls in line with the government of Alberta's desire to see as much choice as possible is afforded to its students, says Edward Greenberg, spokesperson for Alberta Learning.

"We're in the process of studying their



So many choices: it's a 'buyer beware' higher-education online market.

application to see if they will be allowed to come into the province," says Greenberg. "There's no timetable set for approval."

The school is applying to enter into Alberta as a non-resident institution, separating it from public post-secondary institutions (such as the University of Alberta and Athabasca University) and Alberta-based private schools (Concordia and Augustana Universities) that are accredited degree-granting schools (via the Prairie College Accreditation Board).

The province will not only verify the school's accreditations, it will ensure Alberta students are getting good value for their money, says Greenberg. And it will make certain Alberta employers hiring those same said students will be getting what they're promised from the bearer of that degree.

At Athabasca University, Dr. Alan Davis, vice-president academic, agrees with Swenson that traditional campus-based education offerings fall short of meeting the needs of working adults. But Davis doesn't see the problems as unsurmountable or permanent.

"Institutions will have to be more flexible in meeting these needs—the squeeze will be on. It's an exciting time. We'll be

seeing many new partnerships, expansions and different new uses of technology."

Davis stands firmly behind the offerings and competitive vibrancy of his institution in meeting the needs of Alberta students—working full-time or not—and says Athabasca U has already been facing competition from numerous established distance-learning institutions.

"It's a question of quality provided at a decent price," he explains. "I'm confident we can beat them on quality."

Davis does warn potential students looking at the University of Phoenix, or any other foreign-accredited school, to check that it fits into their life-long education plans. Students may be shocked to discover their University of Phoenix degree, as a whole or a part of their course work, will not be accepted towards future studies or additional degrees in accredited Canadian institutions.

Gail Aller-Stead, a Toronto-based business consultant, echoes Davis' sentiment, urging students to be vigilant. She should know. Aller-Stead earned her initial undergraduate degree from Athabasca University and a master of science degree in organizational development from Pepperdine University in California as a distance scholar while working full-time.

"Be very clear about why you're going back to school: is it for intellectual curiosity and personal development? Is the degree to serve as a backdrop for your professional work? Is it a stepping stone

for future schooling?" she asks.

Aller-Stead chose to finish her university degree with Athabasca because it recognized work she'd done in different universities in three provinces and two business certificates she'd taken ("I only had to take five courses with Athabasca as opposed to having to start all over at another school"). She chose Pepperdine because of the school's international reputation and the fact it was—and still is—the benchmark in the field of organizational development with no Canadian equivalent.

Looking beyond the simple market concerns, what does the entry of University of Phoenix mean in the bigger picture?

Dr. Doug Oram, the University of Alberta's vice-president (academic) and provost, doesn't see the University of Phoenix as a serious competitor to the U of A or the University of Calgary. He does, however, have some deeper concerns about the long-term impact on educational quality.

"I see people paying a high price for credentials," he says. "It's servicing a market of people in the workplace who are looking for a degree without a great number of prerequisites and complications."

Oram adds he also has a personal concern with the idea of for-profit education and its role in the job of providing a broad-based liberal education to the public.

"What's your primary focus?" he concludes. "Is it exchanging ideas and fostering education? Or is it the bottom line?" ■

"We're excited to move into Calgary. When you think of Calgary and Alberta, you think of entrepreneurial, business-focused, expansive, active. We're that kind of institution."

— Dr. Craig Swenson, University of Phoenix, a for-profit, private institution

Q&A with President Rod Fraser

By Geoff McMaster



President Rod Fraser

Once again, we've randomly surveyed faculty on campus for questions they wish to ask President Rod Fraser. This is the second in a regular series of periodic updates with the president. Here's what he had to say in response to some of questions during a 75-minute interview with Folio Assistant Editor Geoff McMaster.

Dr. Patricia Clements, English, former dean of arts: *Single, burning, and more pressing at this moment than ever before: do you see this university as striving for excellence in BOTH the social sciences and humanities, on the one hand, and the natural, engineering, and medical sciences on the other, and do you see yourself as giving equal support to both?*

RF: Without any equivocation. In order to build a knowledge-based society, in order to build the kind of world in which we would want our children and our grandchildren to live, we know we must have outstanding educational programs in the humanities, the social sciences and the fine arts. And we know we get tremendous pride from outstanding, creative, scholarly and research work done in this quadrant—I'm in 100 per cent agreement with that.

I think the fundamental outcomes of a university degree are problem definition, analysis and resolution, critical thinking, communication both written and oral, especially in small teams of people. We need to help students develop their capacity for independent judgement, where they have to integrate information and values from a very disparate society. We should facilitate as best we can their ability to go on learning throughout their lives...I say

that every time I stand up and someone wants to listen to me.

Dr. Terry Carson, chair, secondary education: *I would be interested in hearing about your present vision of the U of A in international work. How should we be involved? In what kinds of projects? What benefits do you see? What are the costs?*

RF: We do indeed have a strategic plan with a focus on three major initiatives: the Asian Pacific; down the Rocky Mountains through the United States into Mexico, Central and South America; and re-enforcing our footprint in Europe, led by the successful competition for the Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies. That's against a background of a university that is indeed a powerful, research-intensive university which has, through the research arm, links into almost every corner of this world. For example, our nurses have a program in Guatemala. There's a new program Dr. Jan Morse [Faculty of Nursing] is setting up that has six international nodes throughout the world. We have researchers doing work in the sub-Sahara in Africa, South Africa and India.

There are a series of objectives we're trying to achieve. It's recruitment of outstanding students. It's building exchange agreements so our students can find a place to go. It's building our alumni so they can raise the profile of the university, help us recruit students and help our graduates find jobs. It's working with benefactors and exploring joint ventures with governments, private-sector partners and universities.

I know of no university that is seen to be one of the world's top 35 universities that is not an internationally vibrant learning community...you've got to have your light above the national horizon.

Dr. Gordon Laxer, director, Parkland Institute: *Do you see yourself primarily as a voice to express the interests of the university community to the province or as a voice to bring the bad news from the province to the university? It's a tough question but it faces all university presidents in Canada.*

RF: It's not tough at all. I have no interest in being a messenger on the part of anybody other than the constituents of the

University of Alberta. I see myself as a carrier of the things that we think are important. The kinds of things we can do for the Alberta taxpayer, our students and for the community of people in Alberta. In that I go back to [founding U of A president] H.M. Tory's words, and I'm paraphrasing, when he said Albertans demand intellectual recognition, that research and scholarship shall not be the preserve of scholars alone. They demand a university that will serve the entire community and lead to the uplifting of the community as a whole.

Dr. Sieghard Wanke, chemical and materials engineering: *Who has or will be held responsible for the Administrative Systems Review Project fiasco?*

[The finance, human resources and student administration updating project escalated to \$26.3 million in costs, after a projected cost of about \$15 million.]

RF: I think it has been an enormous challenge, as it is for any institution public or private, to introduce new information systems. At this stage the resources we've used to make that happen, I'm told, are substantially less than other institutions our size who have to this point tried, and failed, to get a new information system in place.

When there is a new information system, I think it takes

a lot of learning by doing, to have that system give you the information in a timely way to do the things you want to do with it. We have an enormously long way to go yet to be able to exploit this new information system so it doesn't cause these enormous pains.

The cost over-run was a function of our not understanding the great hullabaloo over Y2K, which meant there were huge resources drawn from the computing-software community that drove wage rates way up. We had to pay substantially higher wage rates than we thought we would have to.

Dr. Vangie Bergum, co-director, John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre: *There is a move to interdisciplinary research and teaching at this university. How do you see the structures of the university changing to support and reward such interdisciplinary initiatives (e.g. cross appointments, multiple-authored publications, interdisciplinary courses, etc.)?*

RF: I've been interested to hear the convocation addresses from a number of our honorary degree recipients who have made their careers, at least in part, in the academic world, and how many of them stress the importance of people who, at some stage in their lives, had crossed disciplinary boundaries.

We must facilitate the interdisciplinary gathering of people—it's fundamental. The dean of science is talking about a major new building that would house interdisciplinary research teams. And we may well see a building that would house a school of international studies with a mix of disciplines.

Dr. Jim Russell, surgery: *There is a serious morale problem in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry with root causes in factors such as: the absence of "hard-funded" positions leading to insecurity and a lack of commitment by the university to the staff member; impaired serials in the library; and non-competitive salary levels, to name a few.*

My question is: What are you and the Board of Governors proposing to do about this global problem, and are you even aware of it? You and the board give every indication that you think everything is going just fine, while staff are leaving or becoming ill or worse.

RF: We're keenly aware of the challenge and it's part of an overall challenge to get appropriate levels of core funding, infrastructure funding and research support funding for all parts of the university. I'm also attempting to work closely with [Dean of Medicine] Lorne Tyrrell on how to address some critical issues for the faculty. One example would be working hand-in-glove with Dr. Tyrrell in gathering the resources to build a \$100-million health-research building.

The board is also keenly aware and attempting to help the university as it does its best to get the right levels of compensation for all members of the university community. We're also working closely with the dean of medicine on the highest priorities that come from the faculty, such as the health-research building, the Institute for Biomedical Design and this major initiative [a province-wide research centre] in proteomics [the study of proteins]. We are aware how enormously complicated it is when there are several sources of funding for so many of the faculty and staff who work in the medical faculty. ■

Reach for a blue phone in times of emergency

Flashing blue strobe alerts attention while button activates video link to Campus Security

By Lauren Podlubny

Ever felt unsafe on campus? Ever experienced being in a dangerous situation and been unable to contact help? Thanks to generous endowments by the University of Alberta and Telus' Affinity Program, in combination with Housing and Food Services and Parking Services, the University of Alberta has taken steps to ensure its students and staff will no longer feel that way.

Three emergency blue phones have been installed on campus, at a cost of about \$84,000, in high-traffic areas: one near the LRT station on 89 Avenue and 113 Street; another at the south-east corner of Stadium Carpark; and the third at the south-west corner of the Biological Sciences building.

In addition to being monitored regularly, the phones have direct video links to Campus Security. When the button is pushed, a two-way communications link is opened, allowing both audio and visual communication between the individual

and Campus Security.

Atop the phone pedestals sits a bright blue light that's lit all the time. But when the red button on the phone is pushed, activating the communication system, the blue light changes from a steady glow to a flashing blue strobe. This will aid in alerting others in the area to the situation, says Constable Rob Rubuliak, and the attention will make it easier to assist those in need.

The response time to any of the three emergency blue phones, says Rubuliak, is two minutes.

Rubuliak hopes the video monitoring will deter would-be damage-doers. Sarah Graham, director of Safewalk, says she doesn't think the blue phones are going to improve safety on campus, but will contribute to the ongoing safety efforts already in place. "I think they can give the U of A a better name," she says.

Plans call for a blue phone on the south side of the Humanities Building, another in the south field, behind the



A safer "blue" campus: strobe lights and two-way video and audio communication with Campus Security. Seen here are Constables Allison Murphy, Darcy Pennock and Rob Rubliak.

Cross Cancer Institute and Lister Hall, and a third in the Education Quad.

Rubuliak says additional phones are

dependent on funding, and stated there are definite plans to "keep lobbying for money." ■

The invisible partner in Alberta's knowledge-based economy

By Dr. Ken Norrie, dean, Faculty of Arts

The provincial government recently announced the establishment of a new Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research (AHFSER), modeled after the highly successful Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. For this purpose, \$500 million will be set aside in Budget 2000, with the provision to increase this to \$1 billion in five years if provincial finances permit. As dean of the Faculty of Arts, I celebrate this initiative. I applaud the provincial government for demonstrating this commitment to research, and I congratulate our colleagues in science and engineering for working to make it possible.

The government's primary motivation in establishing the AHFSER is not to support curiosity-driven science and engineering research, although that will be one important and welcome consequence. Rather, the move is very clearly part of its long-term economic development strategy.

"The endowment...will be a vital part of the province's commitment to expand Alberta's emerging knowledge-based economy," said Premier Ralph Klein. Innovation and Science Minister Lorne Taylor said the government would like to see the knowledge-based economy grow to 25 per cent of the Alberta economy by 2010, compared to about 8 per cent currently.

A THIRD AND EQUAL PARTNER

My purpose here is to argue basic research in medicine, science and engineering is a necessary but not sufficient condition for realizing a knowledge-based economy in Alberta. There is a third leg to this stool: basic research in social sciences, humanities and fine arts. As in science and engineering, there is great merit in curiosity-driven research in the traditional arts. However, there is also a practical benefit in terms of income and employment growth. Scholarship in the arts is the silent partner in the Alberta knowledge economy.

My first point is a general one. Technological change is an important part of economic growth, but it is not enough by itself. Consider the period from the mid-1970s to the present. We witnessed some of the most rapid technological change in our history. Yet average annual economic growth rates in Canada and other Western industrial economies paled in comparison to what they were in the three decades after the Second World War. Economic growth in turn was slow

because of a well-documented productivity slowdown. Hence the paradox that has intrigued analysts for nearly a quarter century: why was productivity growth so slow in the midst of such rapid technological change?

The answer, recent research demonstrates, is our institutional structures were inadequate to the task. Our laws, government regulations, corporate structures, international treaties, dispute-resolution mechanisms, cultural awareness, social attitudes and so forth were derived from an earlier time and from earlier technologies. We needed to reshape institutions and remove some institutional constraints before we could take advantage of the new opportunities. Social science and humanities researchers deal with institutions in the broadest sense of that term, and it is their work that has allowed us to begin to overcome these obstacles.

Take medical care as an example. The future health of Albertans certainly depends on developing new treatments and procedures. But it also requires a better understanding of population-health issues, for example, the way social structures, environmental practices and broader quality of life issues influence health outcomes. The future health of Albertans also requires more appropriate incentive schemes for doctors and regional health administrators, and better ways to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of new pharmaceuticals. The social savings from getting the institutional setting right can be enormous. Federal and provincial medical granting agencies now recognize this point, and have begun funding social sciences and humanities researchers. In this respect too, the AHFMR can serve as a useful model for the AHFSER.

ALBERTA ADVANTAGE INCLUDES THE ARTS

Consider specific examples from each of the three divisions of arts—social sciences, humanities and fine arts. There has been considerable research recently on the relative efficiencies of different ways of raising government revenue. Suppose an Alberta-based team of social scientists were able to recommend changes to the current tax structure that could improve the efficiency of the provincial economy by a very conservative amount of one-tenth of one percent. Alberta's gross domestic product is about \$100 billion, meaning the annual return in perpetuity to this research is \$100 million. Considering what this

research would cost, the rate of return is obviously very high.

Humanities research provides a second example of the practical value of arts research. Alberta has always been a trading economy. Success in international markets was difficult enough in the days when we relied on exports of a few natural resource products to English-speaking and culturally familiar countries such as Britain and the United States. It is much more challenging today when we are attempting to sell sophisticated manufactured products as well as business and professional services to markets around the globe.

We now know that the key to success in the new global economy is "cultural literacy"—that is, a sophisticated knowledge and understanding of the world's languages and cultures. It is now a cliché to say business is global but markets are local. As national boundaries fall, cultural differences remain or even intensify—and as experience has shown, the language of business is the language of the client. Canada, for all its long history as a trading nation, rates poorly on indices of cultural literacy, falling behind small countries such as Sweden and Norway where understanding the languages and cultures of the international community has always been a fact of life.

The Alberta government recognizes this point. A recent document entitled "Building on the Alberta Advantage" cites as an important goal, namely to "improve Alberta's ability to compete and do business in global markets by expanding people's understanding of world languages and cultures."

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS?

Researchers in the arts faculty at the U of A currently study 22 languages, and do so by emphasizing the links between language and culture. The social return to these activities is clear: if we wish to effectively interact with our trading partners and secure anything close to an "Alberta Advantage," we had better be ready to deal with our neighbours on their terms.

The fine arts provide a third example of the benefits of arts research and creative activity. High-paying jobs in science and engineering alone will not lure professionals to Alberta or at least will not keep them here for long. Quality of life in their local community is equally important. Being highly educated and internationally oriented,



Tina Chang

Norrie: the arts "are essential partners in Alberta's plans for a knowledge-based economy."

world-class researchers expect world-class music, art and drama. I would venture to guess it is a rare recruiting visit to Edmonton that does not feature a visit or at least an information package on the Winspear Centre, the Edmonton Opera, the Citadel Theatre and the 124th Street Gallery walk. These are many of the factors which professionals bear in mind when choosing where to establish their careers.

We have these world-class facilities because we have top departments of music, drama and art and design. Fine arts departments have traditionally been closely tied to the communities in which they are located and ours is no exception. The social return to these activities is yet again very clear.

Teaching and research in the arts are essentials partners in Alberta's plans for a knowledge-based economy. The knowledge-based economy goes far beyond mere "technical know-how," as significant as that may be. Those economies of the future which hope to be successful will provide the necessary combination of technical skills, quality of life and critical self-analysis. Successful and flourishing societies have a built-in mechanism for self-criticism, leading them to constantly improve themselves within a framework of democratic freedoms. The humanities, the social sciences and the fine arts provide us with the skills and acumen that go beyond technology.

This is what we need to guarantee our society remains flourishing, economically productive and socially beneficial to the vast majority of its citizens. ■

U of A takes third spot nationally for MRC funding

By Geoff McMaster

University of Alberta researchers pulled in more than \$13 million in the latest round of Medical Research Council (MRC) grants, placing them third nationally behind the University of Toronto and McGill University. It is also more than half of the \$23.4 million allocated to Alberta.

"That is very successful," says Associate Dean of Medicine and Dentistry Joel Weiner. "We've been third the last couple of times, so we're really getting up there in terms of being a major centre. The key thing about MRC is it's the gold standard. If you're doing well at MRC, you know you've got the best science."

The U of A ranks first across the country for success rate of applications, with

renewals at about 73 per cent and new grant applications at about 35 per cent, says Dr. Weiner. Despite that success, however, he calls the outcome of this competition "bittersweet."

"While we did really well, there are a couple of areas where we didn't get funding and really expected to...it was quite a shock to us," he says, referring to clinical areas in medicine and protein structure research.

In total, 33 researchers from the U of A and its affiliate, the Alberta Cancer Board, received funds to either continue projects or begin new ones in areas such as hepatitis C, ovarian cancer, Wilson's disease, and bipolar disorder.

Dr. Michael Walter, who does research on glaucoma, the second-leading cause of blindness in Canada, says this latest infusion will allow him to continue work he's been doing for the past five years.

"Salaries are a big part of the costs of our lab," says Walter, "and what this means is I can continue to keep people working."

The funding is part of \$165 million handed out by the federal government to universities across the country for health-related research over the next five years.

Three U of A researchers—Drs. Lorne Tyrrell, Norman Kneteman and Jutta Preiksaitis—also received a total of \$637,000 for hepatitis C research, but that

number won't be official until later this year, says Weiner, since grant applications for the same projects also went to the newly created CANVAC (Canadian Network for Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics of Cancer and Chronic Viral Diseases). ■

TOP 5 MRC WINNERS (September 1999 competition results in millions)	
Toronto	—\$30.6
McGill	— 21.9
University of Alberta	— 13.3
University of British Columbia	— 12.5
Université de Montréal	— 11.7

Discovery could save millions of lives from E. coli, cholera

U of A chemists create a 'starfish' model to fight deadly bacteria

By Phoebe Dey

After a prestigious scientific journal published his research team's report on a sugar molecule that could fight deadly bacterial infections such as E. coli, Dr. David Bundle fielded questions from reporters at CBS, CNN, Reuters, Associated Press and from as far away as Japan. But hearing from his son about the article may have been most meaningful to the university's chemistry professor.

"My oldest son had a paper in *Nature* a year ago on flightless birds, so he thought it was pretty good his dad could get in there 13 months later," said Bundle of his biologist offspring, who was at Harvard University at the time of his publication.

Bundle has been making scientific discoveries for years but has quickly discovered health-related issues make the biggest splash.

Four years ago the research team started work on creating a molecule to neutralize the type of toxins that cause E. coli, or so-called hamburger disease, and cholera which kills millions each year.

The E. coli bacterium, which produces the shiga toxin, can be transferred to humans through improperly cooked meat, unpasteurized milk and impure water. The closely related toxin responsible for cholera is produced by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.



Dr. Bundle, Dr. Kitov and Joanna Sadowska: the next step is to prove the inhibitor is safe in humans.

Patients severely affected by this toxin experience rapid loss of bodily fluids which leads to dehydration and shock. Both illnesses bring on severe, if not fatal, dehydration caused by diarrhea. Other complications include kidney and nervous-system damage.

About two and half years ago, U of A chemist Dr. Pavel Kitov coined the term

"starfish" to describe the shape of the sugar molecule which fits into the sites that allow toxins to bind to host cells. This perfect fit will prevent the toxins from joining on to and damaging host-cell surfaces, said Bundle, lead author of the paper.

"What you have is a Velcro effect," he said. "And we now have a very efficient

inhibitor which is 10 million times more effective than anything we've seen before."

Kitov spent years thrashing out methods of creating the starfish molecule, while chemist Joanna Sadowska developed techniques to execute the discovery in a short time frame.

"Then it was 'Eureka!' and Pavel had something that was very active," said Bundle. The researchers sent the molecule to the lab where microbiology professor Dr. Glen Armstrong and x-ray crystallographer Dr. Randy Read (now at the University of Cambridge) tested and confirmed the starfish can protect against the toxin.

The next step is to prove the molecule is safe in humans and to land an industrial sponsor which so far has been unsuccessful.

"Last year there were 256 deaths in the U.S. from this and that's tragic, but the truth is pharmaceutical companies are in business to make money, and a new drug has to address a large market," said Bundle.

He added the discovery in the lab is the most significant part to the whole process. "The paper is important not principally because of the potential drug to be made from it. That might be the case, but it's not the fundamental reason." ■

Associate VP (international) sets global goals high

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Ask Dr. Brian Stevenson, associate vice-president of University of Alberta International, what his favourite spot in the world is, and he'll reply: the mountains in Kananaskis and the pine lake resort in Valle de Bravo, Mexico.

It's a fitting, rather diplomatic reply, given his Mexican-Canadian upbringing.



Stevenson: "Internationalization is no longer a luxury; it's a necessity now."

Throw in some Irish-American blood and that will explain the blue eyes.

The roving Stevenson now has his feet planted firmly in the snowy city of Edmonton, charged with the task of increasing awareness of internationalization at the U of A.

"My priority is applying my motto, 'internationalization begins on campus.' That means consulting and meeting with people—deans, department heads, academics and students—about international issues, and linking what's happening

around the world to them."

Priority number two, adds Stevenson, is to have faculty and students involved in international projects. "I want to help inspire people to go abroad, get international exposure, and use their expertise in various countries."

The man speaks from his own experience. Born in Victoria, B.C., Stevenson, his sister, his Mexican mother and Irish-American father, who was a merchant marine, moved around throughout the U.S. and Mexico. The experience provided him with the linguistic and cultural skills he would later use in his career with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs.

"It was interesting to go to Mexico as a very young child and not know Canada, but always be distinguishably 'Canadian' growing up," he said. Another move away, then back to Mexico at age 16, the now fluent-in-Spanish Stevenson found it difficult to adjust and to appreciate Canada this time around. But this only propelled the teen to find out more about his homeland.

"And it instilled the desire for public service to learn about the politics of a country. I have a natural tendency for that anyway, and it always fascinated me."

It's a tendency for which he believes

Canadians are uniquely known. "I have a theory that people are actually born 'Canadian,' whether born in Canada or not. We attract people who are 'Canadian' before they even arrive here. They come here because they have a certain temperament...It's just a pet theory of mine."

Stevenson wants the U of A to go out and connect with the world through exchanges, sabbaticals and development projects. And he'd like to spread his enthusiasm around liberally.

"I'd like to help inspire people to go abroad, get international experience and use this expertise in other countries... Alberta is an export economy. We have to be exposed to learning about ourselves and others," he says.

"Globalization has brought a whole new dimension of relationship-building in the world—people to people. And this is increasing exponentially. The university has to be a part of this."

Being a part of this costs money, especially when the university brings the world to campus.

"In a publicly funded institution, where there isn't a lot of extra money to go around for these things, we have to discuss and debate this issue. We have to

make internationalization self-sustaining, and we have to find the funds to do it. The [international student fee] proposal has to be re-examined."

Stevenson is referring to the administration's attempt last fall to double the tuition charged for international students, making it more in line with the tuition charged at UBC and U of T, and providing better services and scholarships for international students once they arrive at the U of A.

"I think the quality of education is well worth the fee," says Stevenson. The real question, he says, is where will the university get the funds to achieve higher levels of internationalization? "This strategy is not a luxury; it's a necessity now...We have to be more entrepreneurial."

Down the road, Stevenson aims for the day the U of A has an international student population of about 10 per cent, up from the four per cent it's at currently.

"I also hope to have an active international research base, very active international programs, scholarships and bursaries for Alberta students to participate in international exchange programs, and an active flow of graduate students to and from the U of A."

Olé, eh. ■

Differential fee increases dropped after students protest

By Geoff McMaster

The university has scrapped its plan for differential tuition fee increases, proposing instead a 6.2 per cent hike for students in all faculties.

Vice-President (Academic) Doug O'wram said he decided to "pull the plug" on the proposal after hearing heated opposition from students at last month's town hall meeting and in consultation with the Students' Union and Graduate Students' Association.

"Basically, consultation served a purpose, and there was not a lot of enthusiasm among students for differential fees," he said. Even arts students, who will pay

more under the revised proposal, were opposed to differential fees on the grounds they were inequitable.

The proposal had called for increases of between 5.7 and 10 per cent over the next three years based on the cost of running programs and the future earning potential of their graduates. Under the current proposal, the average student paying \$3,550 per year faces an increase of \$220.

Both Students' Union President Michael Chalk and GSA President Laura Bonnett welcomed the change but said the flat increase is still too high.

"It's definitely a step in the right direc-

tion," said Chalk. "It was a proposal that was full of holes and deeply flawed. We're happy to see that part of it gone. We're also happy to see that it's 6.2 instead of 6.86 [the average increase under the previous proposal]."

"However, it's still a sizable increase. Dropping differentials has saved medical students \$200 a year, for example, but their bills are still going up by \$300."

Bonnett says she's glad to see differential fees off the table but repeated her argument graduate students should not have to pay as much as undergraduates given their various contributions to the

university. At a recent meeting of the GSA, "everyone felt quite strongly a two per cent increase was a realistic reflection of what graduate students should have to face," she said.

"On the other hand I'm happy differential fees between faculties is off the table, because I think it could negatively affect graduate students further down the line." She said the differential fee issue "takes us away from the most important question which is, why do we have to have tuition increases at all."

The current proposal will go to the Board of Governors March 3 for a vote. ■

Parkland Institute study challenges globalism

\$1.4M grant examines corporate-agenda impact on sovereignty and citizenry

By Geoff McMaster

Researchers based at the Parkland Institute have won a \$1.4 million grant to study the ideology of globalism. The project will critically examine “neo-liberal globalism and its challengers” over the next five years, says Dr. Laxer, the institute’s director. It will take a hard look



Drs. Brodie and Laxer (top centre and right) with sociology's Dr. Satoshi Ikeda and Joséé Johnston: studying globalism and its impact.

how globalism—defined as “the political regime that governs a highly integrated, corporate-dominated, world economy”—has begun to seriously undermine “democratic assumptions about the sovereignty of states and national citizenry.” “Neo-liberal globalism has dominated the public-policy agenda in Canada and elsewhere for the past two decades and had major impacts on people, their communities and their countries,” says Laxer. “Globalism mandates that governments turn away from serving the needs and demands of their citizens and toward satisfying those of foreign corporations...” The funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) has been awarded to Laxer, political science chair Dr. Janine Brodie and 12 other Canadian-based

researchers. Dr. Marjorie Chohen, head of women’s studies at Simon Fraser University and Dr. Stephen Clarkson, a political scientist at the University of Toronto, will co-direct the project with Laxer and Brodie. A total of 19 researchers, some from as far away as Australia, Norway and Mexico, will contribute. It’s only the third major collaborative research initiative to be funded by SSHRC at the U of A. Researchers say the timing of the project couldn’t be better, following on the heels of protests at the World Trade Organization two months ago in Seattle and the defeat of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment in 1998. “I think people had assumed that everyone was going along with [globalism],” says Laxer. “But Seattle showed there was quite a bit of opposition internationally from different groups and even among the youth.” The funding will be used to support graduate student assistantships, post-doctoral fellows, time release for professors, a full-time administrator and travel money for the 12 Canadian-based researchers to attend conferences. U of A sociology professor Dr. Satoshi Ikeda and Joséé Johnston, a doctoral student in sociology, are also on the research team. The researchers plan to publish the results of their study in three books and

OBJECTIVES OF THE PARKLAND INSTITUTE-BASED PROJECT “GLOBALISM AND ITS CHALLENGERS”

- To evaluate the ecological, economic, political and socio-cultural sustainability of neo-liberal globalism.
- To map the political direction of globalism's challengers in their efforts to re-democratize the local, national and the international realms.
- To explore alternatives to globalism, or new ways of thinking about how we live together.

» quick » facts

special issues of academic journals. They will hold an international symposium in the fall of 2005, and will offer a 13-week lecture series on the topic to be simulcast at several Alberta universities. They also hope to make a number of policy recommendations to government when the research is completed. “This SSHRC grant is a great vote of confidence in the kind of work and perspectives researchers at Parkland have been using,” says Laxer. ■

Researchers improve pneumonia management

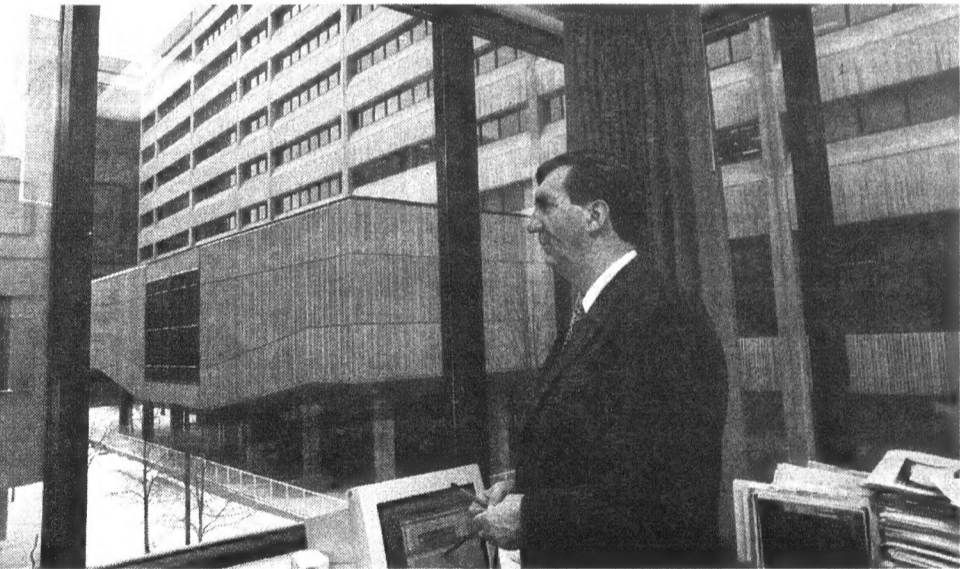
Study comes up with a better treatment for patients and cost-effective method for hospitals

By Phoebe Dey

At nearly any party, it is likely at least one of the guests has suffered from pneumonia, or knows someone who has. Treatments and diagnoses for the disease, described as the “Captain of the Men of Deaths” because of its potency, can be lengthy, tedious and expensive to the health-care system. A University of Alberta researcher, however, has come up with a solution to the administrative side of the problem. Dr. Thomas Marrie, the lead author of a study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, says a new system would save the Capital Health Authority \$1.4 million a year. “The study showed we can send more patients home from the emergency room than we do now and send them home less expensively,” said Marrie, chair of the Department of Internal and Clinical Medicine. He said a previous study discovered patients prefer being treated at home than in hospital. “One of the major accomplishments showed you can do these critical pathways at all hospitals in Canada.” Critical pathways—management strategies that define the essential steps of

complex processes—are frequently used by health-care organizations to ensure the delivery of high-quality care while controlling costs. After realizing the variance of treatments among different health-care facilities, Marrie and his team have come up with a basic way to keep costs down while ensuring patients they are receiving valuable care. Simply put, a system must be implemented to help doctors decide which patients can receive comparable treatment through medication at home and which critical cases need to be treated in hospital. The controlled clinical trial monitored 1,743 pneumonia patients at health-care centres across Canada between Jan. 1 and July 31, 1998. In the study, critical pathways included assessing the severity of pneumonia, guidelines for use of medications and criteria for discharging patients from the hospital. Nine of the hospitals in the study used critical pathways to treat pneumonia patients while another 10 continued to use the conventional method of management. The trial showed a reduction of 18 per cent in the admittance of low-risk patients and a 1.7-day decrease in hospital stays. More importantly, patients in the study

“The study showed we can send more patients home from the emergency room than we do now and send them home less expensively.”
—Dr. Tom Marrie, chair, Department of Internal and Clinical Medicine



Marrie: managing pneumonia with an 18 per cent admittance reduction and a 1.7-day decrease in hospital stays.

valued the individual attention, said Marrie. “One thing we constantly heard from those people who went home was that they appreciated the follow-up phone call they received which they normally wouldn’t get,” he said. The Capital Health Authority has reviewed the study and plans to implement the pathways in the future, which means a large number of Albertans fighting pneumonia will see a different method of treatment. The illness affects the young and

the elderly more than any other age group. “It would tip the scales for the way we die,” said Marrie. “Even though there may be lots of things wrong, pneumonia is often the final common thing that causes many of us to leave the Earth.” Has the doctor reflected on the impact his work will have on the general population? “I don’t think about that,” he said. “When you join the medical field your objective is to provide the best possible care. It’s what I do.” ■

University settles on site for track and field stadium

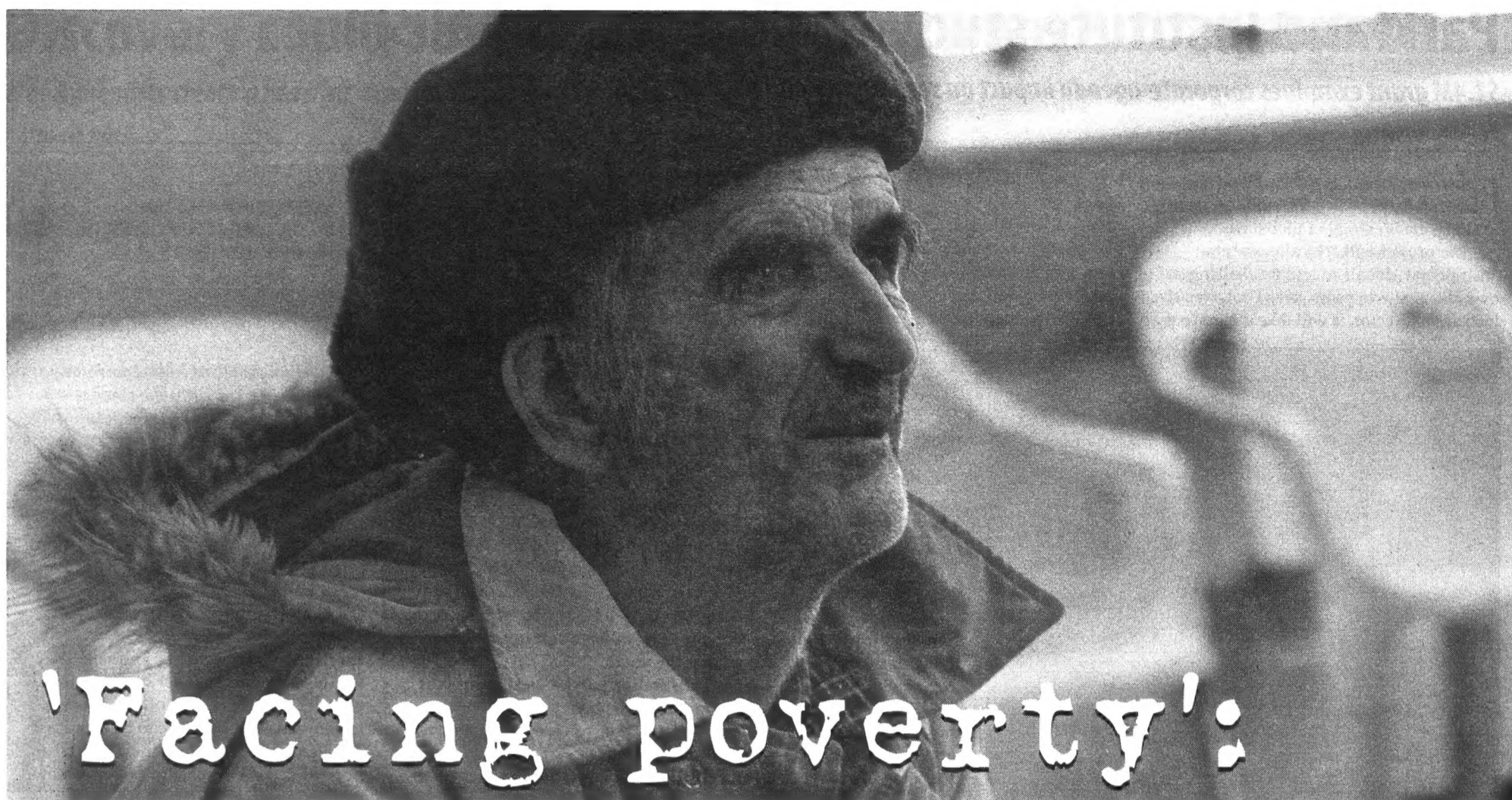
By Geoff McMaster

The university now plans to build the practice facility for the 2001 World Track and Field Championships in Athletics on university farm land just southwest of the Balmoral Curling Club. The new site, the third under consideration over the past 18 months, was announced Feb. 15 at a meeting with community representatives. Overall, most neighbors were

satisfied with the compromise, says Kathie Brett of Lendrum. “We were pleasantly surprised by the number of our recommendations that were incorporated into the plan,” she says. There are still a few “outstanding concerns,” she adds, such as traffic flow and access from Belgravia Road, but most in the community are confident these details

can be worked out. The first site proposed, on provincial land south of the Neil Crawford Centre, failed to receive government approval. The second was seen as too close to the Alberta School for the Deaf and the Tevie Miller School. Bleachers will be moved from Varsity Stadium to the new practice facility, which will house an artificial turf field for foot-

ball, track and field, field hockey and other events. The stadium will also feature an international quality running surface. Smaller fields will be located just south of the stadium for pole vault, high jump, discus, javelin, shot put and the hammer throw. There are also plans for about six playing fields east of the stadium next to the Neil Crawford Centre. ■



'Facing poverty':

Taking justice issues to the street

Faculty of Extension's law magazine teams up with Our Voice to spread the word on legal concerns

By Geoff McMaster

Flipping through the latest issue of *Law Now*, a Faculty of Extension publication on legal issues in lay terms, Linda Dumont pauses at an article on women and lawyers.

"You know, they really need to change the law concerning women. The way it stands now, especially for women in abusive relationships, usually the only way out is to leave," she says, "and then the man gets everything. The law rewards people for being nasty."

The veteran vendor of *Our Voice*, a newspaper sold on the streets and produced by

the inner city's Bissell Centre, should know. Ten years ago Dumont left her marriage and her life in a rural Alberta farm community, with only her three children and few possessions to show for it. As a former elementary school teacher, she worked casually as a substitute teacher in Edmonton for a while, but admits it "didn't agree with me." She soon wound up on social assistance.

Selling *Our Voice* on the street was certainly not the answer to all of her problems, but it helped.

Vendors buy the paper—a non-profit forum for Edmonton's economically marginalized to talk about their struggles—for 60 cents per copy. They take it to the streets and sell it for whatever people are willing to donate.

Since it began, *Our Voice* has helped more than 1,500 people help themselves become more independent. Says one vendor: "Many of us make \$25 a day, enough to survive. For many of us, it's our job. We are independent, our own bosses. The rules are simple: be sober, polite, and sell only where it's authorized."

On the day Dumont started selling the paper in 1993, with her daughter standing beside her on a south-side street corner, she didn't even have enough money to buy a postage stamp. But she went home with \$20, enough to put food on her family's table.

What better way, then, for *Law Now*, a magazine published six times a year by extension's legal studies program, to distribute its special issue called "Facing Poverty" than through *Our Voice* vendors?

Partly sponsored by the Alberta Law Foundation and the Clifford E. Lee and Muttart Foundations, the national publication takes on a range of topics including poverty and legislation, the right to fair

legal aid, women and access to justice, and the growing gap between the rich and poor.

The joint venture is a great opportunity for vendors, says *Our Voice* editor Michael Walters, since they can make a healthy profit buying the magazine for \$1 and selling it for \$4.95. The magazine has given 500 copies to the newspaper, and after the first week almost half of them sold, mainly because *Our Voice* has such a strong core of support, says Walters.

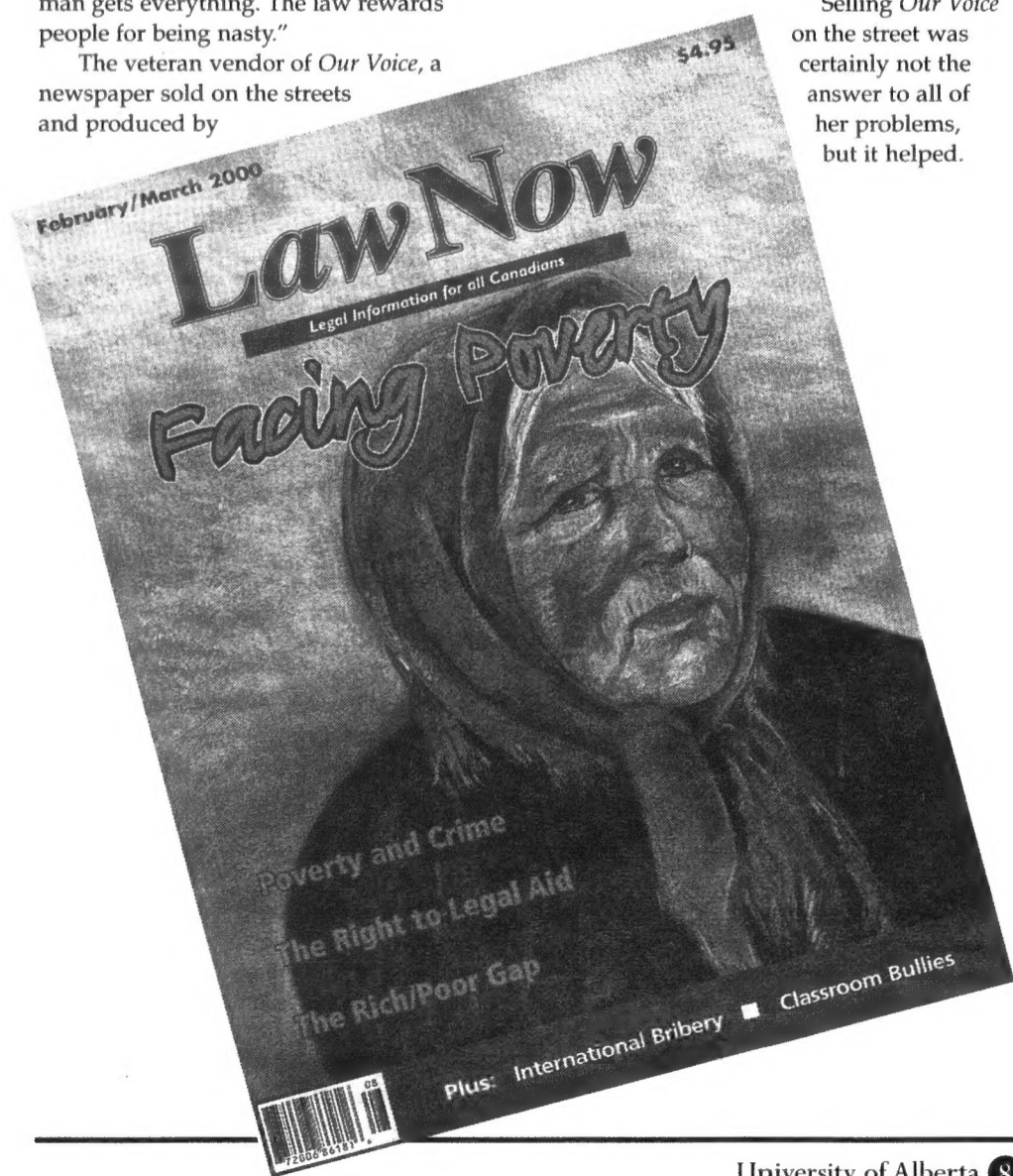
Law Now publisher Lois Gander got the

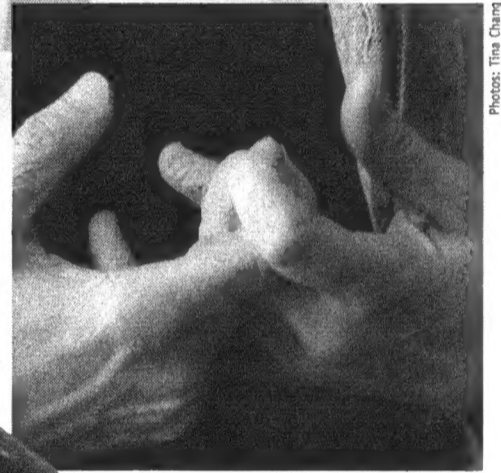
inspiration for the partnership at last year's "Poverty Amidst Plenty" conference sponsored by the U of A-based Parkland Institute. Readers of her magazine had also been telling her poverty was the No. 1 issue they'd like to see explored—and what

better way to spread the word than by the people who struggle with poverty on a daily basis?

"It struck me there was this great distribution channel for it, and their purpose and our purpose came together wonderfully," says Gander. "It's just one of those community partnerships that hit the nail on the head."

Walters says he jumped at the proposition. "These are all issues we've talked





Photos: Tina Chang

about in *Our Voice* before, in terms of people's personal experience with them," he says.

"For us it's an extension of the newspaper. For financial reasons we don't really have the opportunity to go beyond 16 pages. Putting it together every month, you have to leave out half of the stuff you're given, because there are so many issues and so many people wanting to write about them."

Walters says if selling the magazine works well for the vendors—and so far it has—he'd welcome the chance to continue the partnership.

As for Dumont, her vending days are coming to a close. Over the past few years she's managed to take enough courses at Grant MacEwan Community College to graduate with a diploma in journalism. Next month she moves up the ladder at *Our Voice* to take on graphic design and layout, while continuing her popular comic strip "Soupline Bob." However she says she'll never forget her vending days or the people she served.

"Selling the paper has become so much a part of my identity," she says, stressing one of the hardest messages to get across to the general community is "you can be healthy and poor and you can be happy and poor... I've enjoyed it. It's been a very positive thing." ■

"These are all issues we've talked about in *Our Voice* before, in terms of people's personal experience with them. . . For us it's an extension of the newspaper."

—Michael Walters, *Our Voice* editor

Long-time *Our Voice* vendor Linda Dumont (above): "Selling the paper has become so much a part of my identity."



Donna Froese displaying her wares on a downtown street corner.

Bryan Frantz

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Grad students gain with largest, private donation to forestry research

Sunpine Forest Products invests in scholarships

By Geoff McMaster

The Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics has received \$250,000 to support graduate scholarships in forestry, the faculty's largest private donation to date for graduate research. The annual award of \$15,000 will be presented to a student in wood science, forest engineering, forest business management, forest economics or forest industry development.

"We have to reinvest in the knowledge of our young people in Alberta so they can add to the competitive advantage of the forest industry," says donor Bruce Buchanan, founder and former owner of Sunpine Forest Products of Sundre, Alta. "I believe in wood science and what it can do for us in the future."

Buchanan named the J.A. (Al) Brennan Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Forestry after his good friend and colleague who died of cancer in 1995. Brennan was former assistant deputy minister of the Alberta government's Department of Energy and Natural Resources between 1978 and 1985. In the late '80s and early '90s he helped implement the government's industry-development division, which encouraged investment in Alberta forestry and tourism.

"He spent most of his career trying to attract new industries to come into Alberta

and bring jobs to rural communities. I really had a lot of respect for him," says Buchanan, adding he was always impressed with "how much enthusiasm

Brennan had for people coming up with new ideas" as well as his dedication and commitment to the forestry industry.

"Public servants in Alberta need to be recognized... Big business people and politicians get lots

of recognition, but not the people who just go to work quietly and give their life in terms of sacrifice and service."

Alex Drummond, a master's student in forestry management, says scholarships like these can go a long way. "It's so helpful... It can allow you to buy that piece of software or hardware or whatever, and take your research to that next level where you're doing the real cutting-edge stuff."

Associate Minister of Forestry Mike Cardinal says the gift is an important endorsement of research essential to the Alberta Advantage. "In order to be competitive in the future, we need to have the right research done and proper support for encouraging young people to enter forestry."

The first scholarship will be presented in 2001. There are currently 63 graduate students studying forestry and forest business at the U of A. ■

talks

Submit talks to Brenda Briggs by 9 a.m. one week prior to publication. Fax 492-2997 or e-mail at public.affairs@ualberta.ca.

CENTRE FOR GERONTOLOGY

February 23, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

In conjunction with The Alzheimer Society of Edmonton: Dr. Nancy Reeves, "A Path Through Loss: a Guide to Writing Your Healing and Growth." Room 2-41 Corbett Hall. Info: 488-2266.

CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

March 1, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Dr. Heather Young Leslie, "Of Cannibals and Colonists: The First Pacific Islander Doctors." Room 6-10 University Extension Centre. Info: 492-4039. Free; open to all.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

Nutrition and Metabolism Research Group

March 1, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Dr. Robert Chapkin, Texas A&M University, "How does dietary fish oil reduce colon cancer risk?" Room 227 Medical Sciences Building.

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

March 2, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Lecture series: Design for the 21st Century. Joy Parr, "These goods are Canadian-made: an historian thinks about things." Tory Lecture Theatre B2.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Departmental Seminar Series

February 25, 2:30 pm

Glen Van Der Kraak, "Status of studies of endocrine disruption in wildlife." Room M-145 Biological Sciences Building.

March 3, 2:30 pm

Dan Simberloff, "Character release and mayhem: The introduction of the small Indian mongoose." Tory Turtle L-12.

Ecology Seminar Series (part of the Biology 631 seminar series)

March 10, 12:00 noon

Corina Brdr, "Limits to butterfly movement through secessionary landscapes." Room M-137 Biological Sciences Building.

Entomology Seminar Series (Entomology 602)

March 2, 3:35 pm

Lloyd Dosdall, "Bertha Armyworm and Canola - A Native Insect, an Introduced Host Plant, and a Pest Management Nightmare." TB-W1 Tory Breezeway.

March 9, 3:35 pm

Chris Buddle, "Extraordinary diversity: the spider fauna of fallen logs and telephone poles." TB-W1 Tory Breezeway.

Molecular Biology and Genetics Research Group (part of the Genetics 605 seminar series)

February 25, 4:00 pm

Eric Baehrecke, "Steroid regulation of programmed cell death in Drosophila." Room M-149 Biological Sciences Building.

Physiology, Cell and Developmental Biology Seminar Series (part of the Biology 642 seminar series)

March 10, 12:00 noon

DeMar Taylor, "Arthropod immunity: search for antibacterial peptides in the hemolymph of ticks." Room M-149 Biological Sciences Building.

Plant Biology Seminar Series (part of the Biology 600 seminar series)

March 3, 10:00 am

Lawrence Harder, "The effects of flower structure and inflorescence architecture on pollen dispersal by animal-pollinated plants." Room M-141 Biological Sciences Building.

March 10, 10:00 am

Victor Lieffers, "What factors control the crown size of lodgepole pine trees?" Room M-141 Biological Sciences Building.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

February 29, 3:30 pm

Chris Bracken, Shyamal Bagchee, Daphne Read, "Gayatri Spivak's A Critique of Post-Colonial Reason. The Post-Colonial East Itself." Room L-3 Humanities.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND CLASSICS

February 28, 3:30 pm

David Duke, Acadia University, "The Wired Classroom: The Acadia Experience." Room 2-58 Tory. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TALK HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

March 2, 3:30 pm

Andrew Gow, "Noah's box: Biblical authority and interpretation of scriptures in the Reformation." Room 2-58 Tory.

March 9, 3:30 pm

Nick Gardner, "The limits to military authority: Discipline and indiscipline in the Indian Army on the western front in 1914." Room 2-58 Tory.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

February 29, 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Research Seminar: Dr. Nancy Gibson (department chair), Lewis Cardinal (director of Native Student Services), and Allen Benson (executive director, Native Counselling Services of Alberta), "Challenges for Research in Native Communities." Room 3-05 Human Ecology Building. Free; open to all. Please feel free to bring your lunch. Coffee/tea/snacks provided.

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL GENETICS

Medical Genetics Rounds

March 1, 1:00 pm

Dr. Murray Robertson, Division of Pediatric Cardi-

IN MEMORIAM

Gordon Russell Finch, 1953-2000

By Dr. Terry Hrudehy

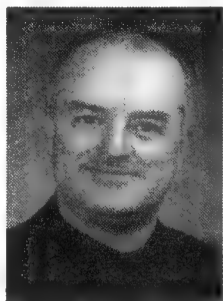
Professor G.R. Finch, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, died Jan. 22, 2000. He was 46. All are deeply saddened by this sudden and tragic loss.

Dr. Finch was a devoted teacher and internationally recognized scholar in water supply and waste-treatment research. He was known for his consummate energy, enthusiasm and devotion to his field.

His research focused on water, wastewater micro-organism reduction and parasites. He is best known for his disinfection work with ozone and other disinfectants. His engineering research will form the basis for drinking water disinfection-design criteria to control *Gyardia* and *Cryptosporidium*.

He obtained his B.Sc. in civil engineering from the University of Toronto in 1976. Following graduation, he spent one year working for the Proctor and Redfern Group in Toronto. This was followed by two years in Papua New Guinea conducting civil engineering-related work under the auspices of CUSO, an international development organization. Following his return to Canada, he joined the firm Proctor, Redfern, Butler and Krebs Consultants in Edmonton.

In 1982, he began graduate studies in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. His M.Sc. was completed in 1984 and his PhD in 1987. Following a year as a senior environmental engineer and project manager in Waterloo, Ont., he was appointed associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Promotion



Gordon Finch

to professor occurred in 1994, and from 1994-1996, he served as associate chair responsible for graduate studies.

Dr. Finch has more than 100 technical publications to his credit, and since 1988 he supervised six doctoral students and 20 master's students, many of whom landed prestigious international prizes. So too did Dr. Finch: the International Ozone Association Harvey Rosen Prize (1998) and the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering Keefer Medal (1987). In 1996, he became a diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers in recognition of his high level of knowledge in the field.

Dr. Finch lived life to its fullest—in his professional career and in his private life. He was extremely devoted to his wife and two sons, and together they enjoyed numerous outdoor activities including camping, hiking, fishing and skiing.

He leaves his wife Barbara, sons Alexander and Sebastian, and many close friends and colleagues. Dr. Finch will be fondly remembered by all those who knew him. A scholarship has been established in his memory, and donations may be sent to: The Gordon R. Finch Memorial Scholarship, Office of the Dean, Faculty of Engineering, 5-1 Mechanical Engineering Building. ■

ology, "Of mice and men: the genetics of congenital heart disease." Room 2-07 HMRC.

March 8, 1:00 pm

Dr. Richard John, RCMP, "General DNA forensic analysis." Room 2-07 HMRC.

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL STUDIES

March 1, 4:30 pm

Andrew Gow, Mikhail Dmitriev, "Medieval Christian Antisemitism in the West and in the East: Why? And What Differences?" Room 2-32 Tory.

March 8, 3:00 pm

Mikhail Dmitriev, Moscow Lomonossov University, "Orthodoxy, Catholicism and Popular Culture: Prospects for Comparative Studies." Room 4-36 Arts Building.

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

February 18, 3:30 pm

Paul Rusnock, "Fearful Symmetry: On a Supposed Kantian Refutation of a Leibnizian Principle." Room 4-29 Humanities.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

March 3, 3:00 pm

Professor Bruce Allen, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "The Stochastic Gravitational Wave Background." Room P-126.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

March 1, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Colloquium and Grand Rounds: "PHSSA." Classroom D (2F1.04 WMC). Info: 492-6408 or darlene.stewart@ualberta.ca

DEPARTMENT OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES

March 2, 12:30 – 1:50 pm

Ms. Fervone Holowenko, "Methanogenesis and fine tailings waste from oil sands extraction." Room 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

March 9, 12:30 – 1:50 pm

Dr. Jens Roland, "Effect of landscape and population size on dispersal of alpine butterflies." Room 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES CENTRE

March 2, 4:30 pm

Dr. Dan Simberloff, University of Tennessee, "Global Homogenization: A Megathreat to Biodiversity." Alumni Room, Students' Union Building.

March 9, 4:30 pm

Dr. Mark Boyce, Fisheries and Wildlife, "Anticipating Extinctions: How to Know What the Future Portends for Biodiversity." Alumni Room, Students' Union Building.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Centre for Research on Literacy

March 1, 3:00 pm

Jonathan Osborne, School of Education, King's College London, "A New Agenda for Science Educa-

tion: Science as Practised or Science Appreciated?" Education South 651a.

March 3, 3:00 pm

Drs. Gay and Jeff Bisanz, Psychology, "Science at the Supermarket: Comparing What Appears in Print, Experts' Advice to Readers, and What Students Want to Know." Education South 651a.

Department of Elementary Education

March 1, 2:00 pm

Dr. Joyce Epstein, Director of the Centre on School, Family and Community Partnerships at John Hopkins University, "Preparing Educators for Successfully Programs of School, Family and Community Partnerships." Education South 533a.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

February 28, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Dr. John Brisebois, "Adventures in Indigenous Health: From Lake Titicaca to Moose Factory." A public lecture on Aboriginal health. Room 2-117 Clinical Sciences Building.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY

March 9, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Dr. Max van Manen, Faculty of Education, "Issues in Phenomenological Research." Room 6-10 University Extension Centre, 8303 – 112 Street. Everyone welcome! Info: 492-8778

RU LEMIEUX LECTURE

March 13, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

RU Lemieux Lecture on Biotechnology: Dr. Christopher Somerville, Dept of Plant Biology, Stanford University, CA, "The Impact of Genomics on Plant Genetic Engineering." Timms Centre for the Arts.

SIGMA XI, U OF A CHAPTER

March 1, 7:45 pm

Jonathan Schaeffer, Computing Science, "Didn't Samuel solve that game?" Room 2-35 Corbett Hall.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING SERVICES

February 29, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Carolyn Kreber, "Teaching Styles – Learning Styles." CAB 281.

March 2, 7:45 – 8:45 am

Anne Naeth, "Drop-In Breakfast – Collegiality." CAB 219.

March 6, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Lewis Cardinal, "Indigenous Worldview." CAB 281.

WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

March 3, 2:00 pm

In conjunction with Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and Department of English. Leslie Heywood, State University of New York, Binghamton, "The Babe Factor: Female Athletes, New Gender Orders, Pretty Sets of Pecs." Room L-3 Humanities. Info: 492-0593.



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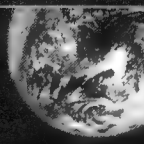
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positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP).

The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.

COORDINATOR SERVICES FOR STAFF WITH DISABILITIES

Specialized Support and Disability Services (SSDS) invites applications for the position of coordinator, services for staff with disabilities. It is a two-year, full-time administrative and professional officer contract position with benefits. The salary range is \$35,000 to \$45,000. The position reports to the director of SSDS.

- The candidate's responsibilities are to:
- develop and coordinate direct services and facilitate support to employees with disabilities;
 - work in close liaison with faculties, departments and various other units throughout the University of Alberta to promote an inclusive and accessible teaching, research, and work environment;
 - advance recruitment and retention initiatives consistent with the university's employment equity plan;
 - and support the university in realizing the goals of its reasonable accommodation policy and administer the reasonable accommodation fund.

The successful candidate will have a thorough knowledge of the diverse needs of persons with disabilities and an understanding of disability-related issues, particularly in the context of employment within a university. This person will have direct experience working with persons with disabilities in addressing such needs or issues, especially in an advocacy or consultative capacity. The position requires strong administrative skills, excellent communication skills and experience in problem solving in complex situations. Also necessary is a good understanding of employment equity and human-rights legislation and the legal concept of reasonable accommodation and related policies. Experience in implementing reasonable accommodation strategies in a large, unionized organization, especially a university environment, with its distributed authority, will be invaluable.

Interested persons are invited to submit résumés by **March 17** to:

The Director, Specialized Support and Disability Services, 2-800 Students' Union Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J7

CENTRE COORDINATOR CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

Applications are now being sought for a full-time centre coordinator in the Centre for Health Promotion Studies which has two post-graduate programs (seven graduates, 74 students to date), numerous research programs/projects, and communication/networking strategies (e.g. Webmaster, newsletter).

The centre coordinator should have a master's degree in a health or health-related discipline and post-master's experience in health-related research, graduate education and administration. The successful candidate should have experience in proposal writing, report preparation, and handling complex budgets. The coordinator should also possess strong organizational and group facilitation skills, excellent communication skills, and an excellent record of strategic and operational planning, program design and evaluation, and staff supervision. Experience in innovative management and financial-sustainability strategies is desirable.

Major duties include coordinating the centre's activities, maintaining and enhancing a supportive research environment, communicating the centre's mandates and contributions, facilitating involvement of community groups and connections among centre associates and stakeholders in the practice and policy arena, and coordinating the development of annual and other reports. The coordinator will monitor and report finances of the centre, and prepare financial forecasts and budget reports as required by funders. The coordinator will work with the director, the graduate program coordinators, research coordinator, communications coordinator, academic staff and associates to achieve the centre's strategic goals in education, research and communications.

This is an administrative and professional officer (APO) position with a salary range of \$36,000 - \$52,000 (under review). Closing date for letter of application, résumé and the names of three referees is March 3, 2000. Please send applications to:

Joanne McKinnon, Health Sciences Office, 2-141 CSB, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2T3
 Fax: 780-492-2874
 E-mail: joanne.mckinnon@ualberta.ca

DEPUTY APPEALS COORDINATOR UNIVERSITY SECRETARIAT

The University Secretariat seeks applications for a deputy appeals coordinator, an administrative professional officer (APO) position, to act in a senior administrative and judicial capacity in relation to the University Appeal Board (UAB). The UAB hears and decides on appeals from students who have been charged with academic or non-academic offences under the university's Code of Student Behaviour. The successful applicant will act as a third-party neutral in receiving appeals, advising the parties about process issues and attending hearings. Responsibilities also include setting up complex hearings in collaboration with faculty members who chair the UAB. This APO will work closely with students, faculty and staff, with associate deans, and with advisers, including lawyers and the Student OmbudService.

Time permitting, this APO may work with the GFC Campus Law Review Committee, may assist in delivering seminars concerning fair process in hearings, and may participate in other departmental activities.

Applicants should have a post-secondary degree and, ideally, experience or training as a neutral party or mediator. Familiarity with the University of Alberta's policies and its people would be an asset. The successful candidate will have outstanding analytical and communications skills including a clear writing style and a confident public speaking manner. Excellent interpersonal skills are essential. The person in this position must also have the ability to engender the confidence of all constituent groups in the university, including that of opposing parties to an appeal. The successful candidate will be a proactive problem-solver and will have a demonstrated ability to apply complex regulations in a fair-minded and common-sense manner. Since the University Secretariat provides links between and among the legislative, judicial and executive branches of university governance, related experience in these areas is desirable.

The person in this position reports to the director of the University Secretariat and will work with a small team of other staff in the University Secretariat in an environment that is collegial, open and consultative.

This is a 10-month term, approximately **half-time** position with a possibility of renewal. The salary range is \$1,183 - \$2,218 per month and is commensurate with education and experience. The start date is early March.

Letters of application, a résumé and the names of at least three referees should be sent to Ms. Ellen Schoeck, director, University Secretariat, 2-1 University Hall, by **Feb. 29, 2000** although the competition may continue until a suitable candidate has been selected. Letters of application should explain an applicant's reasons for applying for this position.

DIRECTOR RESOURCE PLANNING

Reporting to the associate vice-president (finance), the director of resource planning will be accountable for all budget/resource planning activities for the University of Alberta, including operating, capital and infrastructure budgets, and envelope and research funding.

The director will also be accountable for introducing and implementing the multi-year budget planning cycle for the university and preparing a full-picture budget/resource plan to the Board of Governors, as well as various sub-committees. In addition, the director will be responsible for establishing the resource planning function for the university.

Qualified applicants will possess a post-graduate degree in business. In addition, a recognized accounting designation is preferred. Related experience in a post-secondary setting is desired and will be considered.

This is a full-time administrative professional officer (APO) position with an approximate salary range of \$56,000 - \$85,000 per annum (currently under review). Deadline for receipt of applications is Feb. 29, 2000. Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be provided only to those candidates selected for interview.

Applications should be forwarded to:

Mr. Nazim Merali, Associate Vice-President (Finance), Office of the Vice-President, Finance and Administration, 1-3 University Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9

DIRECTOR EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Applications are invited for the director, employee relations and employment services, reporting to the associate vice-president (human resource services). The director is responsible for providing leadership and the effective operation of the Employee Relations and Employment Services Department including management of employee relations, employment, job evaluation and compensation units. The director ensures collaboration between and across

Human Resource Services and with the Academic Administration Office, and ensures an effective and responsive service is provided to employees, the university community and the Non-Academic Staff Association. The successful candidate will champion a "building better workplaces" philosophy and developing capability in departments and faculties for human-resource decision making, as well as implementing proactive approaches leading to win-win solutions in all employee relations matters. The director will lead development of proposals and act as spokesperson in all collective bargaining matters.

This professional will have the leadership qualities to build a solid relationship with the staff associations, incorporate alternate dispute resolution techniques into decision making and be a key member in human resource policy change initiatives. The ideal candidate will have an undergraduate degree in business or industrial relations accompanied with training and experience in labour relations, progressive dispute resolution processes, recruitment, job evaluation and compensation. A CHRP designation is desirable. This senior opportunity requires at least 10 years experience in collective bargaining and dispute resolution in a complex multi-faceted work environment. Excellent communication, interpersonal, facilitation and negotiation skills are essential.

This administrative professional officer (APO) position has a salary range of \$51,022 - \$76,534 along with a comprehensive benefits package.

If you have a successful history as an employee-relations leader and team builder, please forward full personal details in confidence by **March 3, 2000** to Mr. K. Darwin Park, CMC or Mr. Anurag Shourie, Davies Park, #904, 10235 - 101 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 3G1.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

The Office of the Dean of Students (DoS) at the University of Alberta invites applications for the full-time continuing position of executive assistant to the dean of students. Reporting to the dean, the successful candidate will be accountable for the provision of a wide range of support systems and administrative tasks necessary to enable University Student Services to attain its goals in recruitment, retention and development of students, as well as service to the university and external community. Particular duties include budget planning and administration, assistance and preparation of new initiatives and funding proposals, human-resources management, advising students about appeals and other university processes.

Applicants should possess:

- A university degree
- A thorough understanding of University of Alberta policies and procedures (academic programs, admissions, appeals and grievances, human resources, financial practices)
- At least five years of relevant experience, preferably as an APO
- Knowledge of the Office of the Dean of Students, University Student Services, and services available to students from other campus sources
- Excellent written and oral communication
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills

This is an administrative and professional officer position with a salary range of \$35,495 - \$53,243 (currently under review) commensurate with qualifications and experience. The position is currently under review.

Applicants are welcome to submit a résumé and covering letter by **Friday, March 3, 2000** to:

Bill Connor, Dean of Students, Office of the Dean of Students, 2-800 Students' Union Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2J7

Phone: (780) 492-4145

Fax: (780) 492-6701

Web: www.ualberta.ca/studentsservices

PROJECT COORDINATOR, MULTICULTURAL MEANINGS OF SOCIAL SUPPORT CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

This project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The research will cover a three-year period. Chinese immigrants and Somali refugees, service providers and policy makers will be interviewed individually or in groups. The project will be conducted in three sites: Edmonton, Toronto, and Vancouver.

The project coordinator will be involved in managing recruitment, supervising research assistants, participating in data collection and analysis, and facilitating and participating in the dissemination of findings. The project coordinator should have a master's degree in the health or social sciences, and experience as a research assistant and project coordinator. The successful candidate should have excellent written and verbal communication skills and organizational skills. Experience in community-based

research is an asset. Ability to speak several languages is desirable.

This position is part-time (20 hrs/wk). Salary is negotiable, based on qualifications and experience. Applications should include the names of three referees. Closing date for letter of application, résumé and the names of three referees is March 3, 2000.

Please send applications to:

Dr. Miriam Stewart, Director, Centre for Health Promotion Studies, 5-10 University Extension Centre, 8303 - 112 Street, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2T3

Fax: 780-492-9579

E-mail: miriam.stewart@ualberta.ca

PROJECT COORDINATOR, SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND SOCIAL ISOLATION IN LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS CENTRE FOR HEALTH PROMOTION STUDIES

This project, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, focuses on social isolation/belonging and social exclusion/inclusion among low-income people. The project includes three phases over a three-year period, and involves individual and group interviews as well as telephone surveys. The project will be conducted in two sites: Edmonton and Toronto.

The project coordinator will be involved in managing recruitment, supervising research assistants, participating in data collection and analysis, and facilitating and participating in the dissemination of findings. The project coordinator should have a master's degree in the health or social sciences, and experience as a research assistant and project coordinator. The successful candidate should have excellent written and verbal communication skills and organizational skills. Experience in community-based research is an asset.

This position is part-time (30 hrs/week). Salary is negotiable, based on qualifications and experience. Applications should include the names of three referees. Closing date for letter of application, résumé and the names of three referees is March 3, 2000.

Please send applications to: Dr. Linda Reutter, Professor, Faculty of Nursing, 3rd Floor CSB, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2T3

Fax: 780-492-2551

E-mail: linda.reutter@ualberta.ca

FINANCIAL BUSINESS ANALYST, RESEARCH AND ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTING FINANCIAL SERVICES

The primary function of the research and endowment accounting section of Financial Services is the financial administration of the University of Alberta's endowment and research funds. Of particular importance is the administration of externally funded grants and contracts in accordance with the granting agency requirements. In addition Financial Services provides advice and service to various clients both internal and external. As part of a team of three, the financial business analyst will be responsible for day-to-day administration of research and endowment accounting policies and procedures. The financial business analyst will be responsible for recommending and implementing departmental policy changes and procedural improvements in this area, as well as maintaining a high level of services at varying levels of university administration (research/teaching/practice).

Qualified applicants will ideally possess a university business degree and be near completion of a recognized professional accounting designation in addition to at least three years of related experience in a large corporate environment. Several years of related experience will be considered. Necessary skills will include strong personal computer applications skills in Microsoft Office Suite. A working knowledge of the PeopleSoft financials will be an asset. Candidates will require demonstrated supervisory skills (for approximately four subordinate staff), strong organizational skills, excellent communication skills (written and oral) and strong business process analytical skills. The successful candidate will be required to interact with staff members at all levels of the organization and exercise sound judgment and tact when providing service to a wide variety of clients.

The financial business analyst, research and endowment accounting reports to the manager, research and endowment accounting. The current salary range is \$37,128 to \$55,692. Deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, March 3, 2000. Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be provided only to those candidates selected for interview. Applications should be forwarded to: Anthony Mitchell, Office and HR Administrator, Financial Services, 300 Administration Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2M7.

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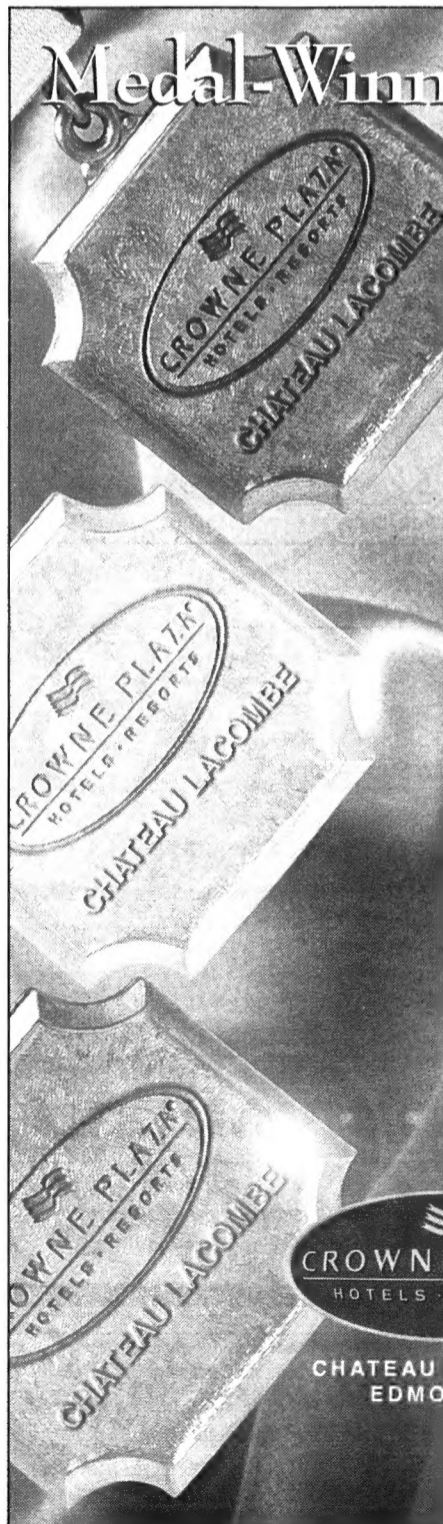
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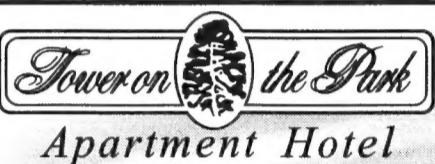
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events

APO SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

APO Learning Implementation Committee

March 22, 8:30 - 11:30 am

Melanie Goroniuk and Brian C. Forbes, "Health
Recovery Support - Making the best use of EFAP and
Disability Management Resources." CAB 219. Info:
492-7126 or karen.wilson@hrs.ualberta.ca.

March 14 and 16, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Ashley Daniel, "Resolving Disputes in the
Workplace." CAB 219. Info: 492-7126 or
karen.wilson@hrs.ualberta.ca.

APO Orientation Part I - For New APOs and Contract APOs on Campus

March 1, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

We would like to welcome you to the University
of Alberta by inviting you to the new APO Orientation
session. Alumni House, 11515 Saskatchewan
Drive. Contact: Shantel MacKenzie at 492-4350 or
shantel.mackenzie@ualberta.ca. Please confirm your
attendance by February 25.

Building Respectful Workplaces: The Foundation

March 2, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Seminar will explore some foundational compo-
nents of a respectful workplace: listening, exchang-
ing information, defining boundaries, valuing differ-
ences, committing to maintenance of positive work-
ing relationships. Room 2-19 CAB. Facilitator: Janet
Smith, Director, Office of Human Rights.

EXHIBITION

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY

until March 1

"Dr. Steven Aung's Spiritual Calligraphy and Paint-
ings and his collection of Taoist Bamboo Carvings." By
Steven KH Aung, MD, FFAFP. Gallery hours: Monday -
Thursday, 8:30 am - 8:00 pm; Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30
pm, Saturday, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. Room 2-54 Uni-
versity Extension Centre. Info: 492-3034.

FAB GALLERY

Show II: February 15 - March 5, 2000

Art & Design Staff Show: "113 Degrees West: In
the Cross Hairs." Showcases work of tenured faculty,
sessional instructors, technical staff. Info: Blair
Brennan, 492-2081. Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday,
10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm;
closed Monday and Saturday.

GENERAL LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

BANFF CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT

February 27 - March 3

"Leadership in Environmental Dispute Resolution."
March 7 - 17

"Management Excellence."

Info: Phone 1-800-590-9799 or website
www.banffmanagement.com.

notices

Please send notices attention Folio 400 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2E8 or e-mail
public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN EDMONTON CHAPTER

The CFUW Edmonton chapter is offering the
2000 Margaret Brine Scholarship for Women, worth
\$1,000 to \$2,000 in value. Applications are available
in Room 105, Administration Building, Faculty of
Graduate Studies and Research. Application deadline
is March 17, 2000.

CARTO 2000

Into the Millennium: Cartography and Map Collections for a New Century

The University of Alberta Libraries' William C.
Wonders Map Collection is hosting an international
conference of cartographers and map librarians from
May 31-June 4, 2000. This conference brings to-
gether for the first time 300 associations including:
the Association of Canadian Map Libraries & Archives
(ACMLA), the Canadian Cartographic Association
(CCA) and the Western Association of Map Libraries
(WAML). For CCA, this conference celebrates its 25th
anniversary. Please view the conference Web site for
further details: <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/maps2000/>

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM REUNION

A reunion is planned for May 26 - 27, 2000 for
alumni and students, faculty and staff of the psychol-
ogy department's graduate program. For details and
reservations contact: Perry Kinkaide, KPMG Consult-
ing LP at pkinkaide@v-wave.com or 429-5860 or Jan
Zielinski at annie@ualberta.ca or 492-0964 or Tracy
Salmon at 492-0866.

The event coincides with the 40th anniversary
of the department's graduate program. Festivities
will commence with a reception at the Faculty Club
(7 p.m.) on May 26 and resume at Fort Edmonton Park
on May 27 concluding with entertainment and a bar-
becue. (A brunch on the 28th is under consideration.)

FEEDBACK FROM SUPPORT STAFF

Attention support staff members and anyone
else who may be interested. I am writing you con-
cerning the revised proposed student tuition in-
crease. I am your support staff representative on the
Board of Governors and one of the cross representa-
tives from the board to the GFC. Your opinions are
important to me. Please forward any feedback about
the revised proposal, especially from individuals who

may not have had the opportunity to express their
concerns. Please send your information to: Lynda
Achtem, c/o 2-5 University Hall, or e-mail:
lynda.bgrep@ualberta.ca.

LIBRARY SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

The School of Library and Information Studies' professional development day takes place March 3, 2000 in the Lister Hall Map Room. Best-selling author Roch Carrier, appointed Canada's fourth National Librarian in October 1999, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Carrier's presentation is entitled "The National Library of Canada at the turn of the 21st century." His talk is scheduled for 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For further information, contact the School of Library and Information Studies at 492-4578 or visit www.ualberta.ca/~lissa1/pdday.htm.

INTERNATIONAL MYELOMA WORKSHOP

Sponsored by the University of Alberta, Alberta Cancer Board and the National Research Council, the eighth International Myeloma Workshop will be held in Banff, Alberta, from May 4-8, 2001. This is a major event bringing together leading researchers in the oncology field to discuss their latest findings. Please check the Web site for details: www.nrc.ca/confserv/myeloma.

PANDAS BASKETBALL 'SUNRAISER' BREAKFAST

As the CIAU National Championship Tournament approaches, the University of Alberta Pandal Basketball Program will be launching an exciting new program. The week prior to the national championships, the Pandas will be hosting their first annual 'Sunraiser' Breakfast. The goals of this event? To build awareness for local women's sports and to forge critical links between the Pandas Basketball program and the various communities. The breakfast occurs Feb. 29, 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. For tickets or information, call 492-BEAR(2327).

U OF A FULBRIGHT RECIPIENTS

University of Alberta International is compiling a list of University of Alberta students, faculty and alumni who have received a Fulbright award. The list is being compiled to gain an understanding of the areas of research and study in which University of Alberta recipients are interested. U of A International would appreciate all Fulbright award winners identifying themselves to Renny Khan at e-mail: renny.khan@ualberta.ca or phone: 492-4482.

Hear Nobel laureate Soyinka speak...

Win free tickets to hear poet/playwright Wole Soyinka, Nobel laureate for literature, speak Fri., Feb. 25 at the Jubilee Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Like Nelson Mandela, Soyinka has become "a symbol of human courage and the relentless struggle for human rights in the face of oppression."

He is the keynote speaker for the Africa Society's conference. Read the Folio story on the Web: www.ualberta.ca/FOLIO/9900/01.07/07.html

First two callers to the Office of Public Affairs, 492-2325, each win a pair of tickets.

Win tickets to the ESO

Win tickets to the ESO's The Real Canadian Superstore:
Saturday for Kids - Wizard of Oz
Feb. 26, 2000
at 2 p.m. at the Winspear Centre.

Return this form to Public Affairs, 400 Athabasca Hall
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Congratulations to our previous winners: Noelle Fraser, University of Alberta Libraries and Henry van Roessel, Department of Mathematical Sciences.

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MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

February 19, 8:00 pm
Visiting artist recital: Martin Kasik, pianist. Works by Chopin, JS Bach, Schumann, Marinu. Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

February 22, 2:00 pm
Saxophone Masterclass. Visiting artist Jeremy Brown. Free admission. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

February 22, 8:00 pm
Visiting artist recital: Jeremy Brown, saxophone. Works by Yoshimatsu, Schuller, Schulhoff, Denisov, Milhaud, others. Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

February 23, 5:00 pm
Brass Masterclass: Hervé Joulain, internationally renowned virtuoso from France. Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

February 26, 8:00 pm
Visiting artist recital: Boris Kipnis, violin; assisted by Boris Kononov, piano and Tanya Prochazka, cello. Works by Mozart, Beethoven, Prokofiev. Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

March 3, 8:00 pm
Nicholas Arthur Kilburn Memorial Concert, featuring Edith Wiens, soprano. Works by Schubert, Brahms, Willan, Copland, Mussorgsky. Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

March 4, 9:30 am
Voice Masterclass: visiting artist Edith Wiens, soprano. Free admission. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

March 4, 6:00 pm cocktails, 6:30 pm dinner
University of Alberta Concert Choir Fundraising Dinner and Evening of "Lands of Song." The Westin Edmonton - Ballroom, 10135 - 100 Street. Admission: \$36/person. Info: 492-2384.

March 4, 8:00 pm
Visiting artist recital: Jacque Després. Free admission. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

March 8, 8:00 pm
Opera Night at the Faculty Club. Presented by the Edmonton Opera Guild, featuring assorted opera arias sung by U of A music students, opera division. Admission: \$8/adult, \$5/student. Info: Carole-Anne Brown, 438-7000. Everyone welcome!

THEATRE

STUDIO THEATRE

March 29 - April 8
William Shakespeare's "Pericles, Prince of Tyre." Box Office: 492-2495. Timms Centre for the Arts.

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ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RENT

CALL NOW! To buy, sell, lease a condominium. \$49,000 to \$450,000. Please ask for Connie Kennedy, condo specialist/consultant, 25 years expertise. Re/Max, 482-6766, 488-4000.

RIVERBEND, BRANDER GARDENS CONDO IN HEARTHSTONE - three bedrooms, two storey, finished basement. Single garage, \$1,150 including utilities. Furnished. Immediate - April 15, 2000. Janet Jenner-Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate, 441-6441.

RIVER VALLEY VIEW - spectacular executive condo. One bedroom and den with sunroom, air-conditioned, many extras. Furnished, immediate, \$1,150/month. Janet Jenner-Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates Real Estate, 441-6441.

MILLCREEK - elegant period two storey, fully furnished. For rent until June 30, 2000. \$1,300. Janet Jenner-Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates, 441-6441.

BELGRAVIA - SPARKLING STYLISH STRATFORD CONDO. Two bedrooms plus den. Five appliances, Jacuzzi, ensuite, two balconies, across from park, underground parking. March 1, \$1,250/month. Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates, 441-6441.

HOUSE, CLOSE TO CAMPUS - three bedrooms, two bathrooms, \$1,000/month, 432-7864.

LARGE BUNGALOW - 2-4 bedrooms, six appliances, two fireplaces. Double garage. No pets/smokers. Quiet, central, close to river valley/trails. Furnished/unfurnished. \$1,000-\$1,250. 487-6780.

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VICTORIA PROPERTIES - knowledgeable, trustworthy, realtor with Edmonton references. Will answer all queries, send information, no cost/obligation. "Hassle-free" property management provided. (250) 383-7100, Lois Dutton, Duttons & Co. Ltd. #101 - 364 Moss Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 4N1

BELGRAVIA EXCLUSIVE - spacious, fully developed semi-bungalow in prime location near the river valley. Value priced for June 1, 2000 possession. Hugh Moncrieff, Re/Max, 488-4000.

BELGRAVIA/U OF A AREA - classy Stratford executive condo. Two bedrooms, fireplace, two baths. Immediate possession. \$139,000. Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates, 441-6441.

WINDSOR PARK SALE BY OWNER - three bedroom bungalow with den, detached garage. Walkout large two bedroom basement suite. TV room, laundry room. \$207,000. 438-3441.

ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED

EXPERIENCED HOUSESITTERS WHO CARE - responsible warm Christian couple willing to provide live-in housesitting with TLC for 3 months. Non-smokers, no children, no pets. Will do maintenance yard work, shovelling. Excellent references. Call Bob or Lenora, 434-6588.

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Justice Arbour to speak on human rights

The horrors of violence, genocide and ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda will be brought closer to home March 9. That's when Canadian Supreme Court Justice Louise Arbour will deliver the second annual University of Alberta Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights.

Prior to her 1999 appointment to Canada's highest court, Arbour served as chief prosecutor of the international criminal tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda for three years. You'll hear her accounts of the impact and aftermath of these atrocities and more.

Arbour was born in Montreal and obtained her law degree from the Université de Montréal in 1970. She was an associate professor at Osgoode Law School in Toronto and served on the Supreme Court of



Canadian Supreme Court Justice Louise Arbour

Ontario and the Court of Appeal for Ontario. In 1995 Justice Arbour was appointed as the single commissioner to conduct an inquiry into events at the Prison for Women in Kingston, Ont.

Arbour will deliver her lecture at 7:30 p.m. at the

Winspear Centre in Edmonton. Tickets are available for \$10 at the centre (428-1414) or at the U of A from the Graduate Students' Association office (206 North Power Plant). Further information is available at: www.ualberta.ca/~lecture/1999.htm.



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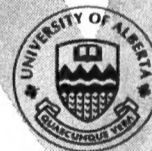
Do we need art?

Moderator:
Bernard Linsky, Chair of Philosophy
Guest Resource Scholar:
Jim Marino, Professor of English

Saturday, March 4, 2000
1:30 to 3:00 pm

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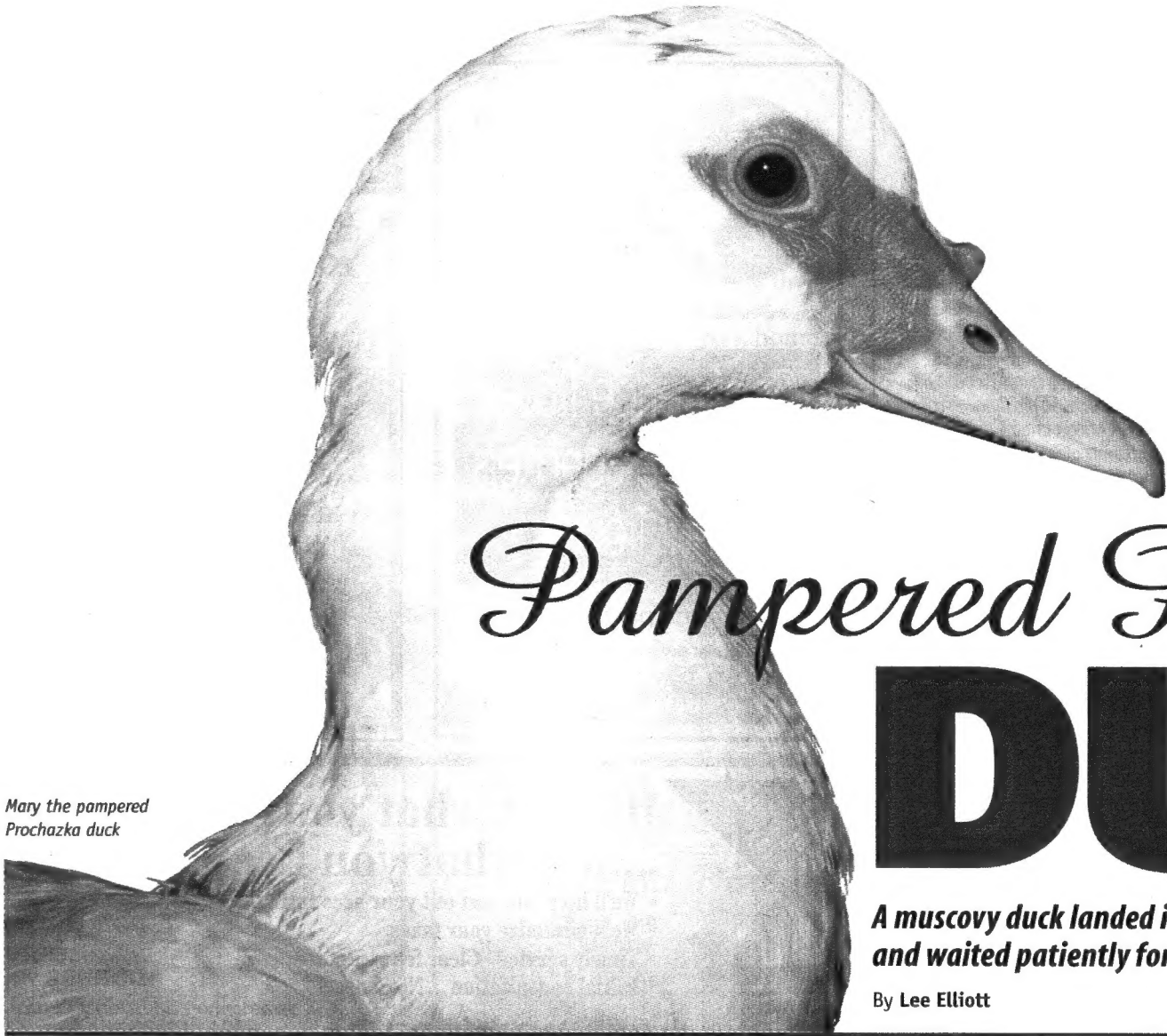
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Mary the pampered Prochazka duck



Prochazka: Mary "is very affectionate."

Pampered Prochazka DUCK

A muscovy duck landed in the Prochazka's garden one summer day and waited patiently for her adoption into the family

By Lee Elliott



Animals know who the mother of the household is, says Prochazka.



Starting off the day with her morning bath.

Few ducks can have arranged things so well as Mary.

Each morning, Mary coos in her private tub while cellist Tanya Prochazka provides a private concert.

Later in the day, she'll pad across the hardwood floors and oriental carpets and over to the red ceramic kitchen tile—leaving the odd wet web print if she's just had her bath.

She helps herself to a dish of cat food left behind by the cat that has learned to stay clear, and waddles nonchalantly past the Prochazka "muttweiler."

It's evident Mary rules the roost in the Prochazka household. She has not only adopted Tanya, an assistant professor of

"People think it's

really quite

insane," says

Tanya, "because

life is full without

a duck. But, it's

not as full as

with a duck."

tracted by the two geese penned in the back yard. She's one of the only breeds of domestic duck—the muscovy—that can fly. Mary actually roosted at the top of a tall power pole, trying to stay clear of the neighbourhood coyotes in the nearby ravine, while she waited for the Prochazkas to invite her inside.

That didn't happen until just before Christmas when it became apparent Mary wasn't coping well. "Ducks are nowhere near as climactically tough as the geese," says Tanya. "She was so scrawny when we brought her in—really in a bad way." The coyotes had continued to hound Mary and both her feet and beak were frostbitten.

"People think it's really quite insane," says Tanya, "because life is full without a duck. But, it's not as full as with a duck."

Part of that fullness comes from the puns that inevitably attach themselves to Mary as she waddles by.

What's the downside to owning a duck? There is no downside to a duck—only geese

have down. How do you get down off a duck? You don't—you get down off a goose.

And of course, Mary is the only pet in the household to have her own webbed site.

"Every university professor should have a duckterate," laughs Tanya. Or, in light of the fact that Mary doesn't quack but coos: "Duckter Prochazka is no quack."

It's not all laughs though. Tanya

admits to some mild discomfort while "frying up a wind-dried duck and here was Mary padding around the kitchen."

Mary

arches her back

for a scratch

and coos while

Tanya expertly

attaches the diaper.

"This is what you learn as a young quack mother," she says. "And the good thing about having ducks is you don't have to go through labour."

Tanya admits it's possible owning the duck is just maternal instinct gone wild. While the Prochazka's three children are still at home, Tanya has played fowl mother before and has been known to head off to the music studio with a baby goose tucked into her pocket.

A duck runs into a drugstore and says to the clerk, "Quick, gimme some Chapstick, and put it on my bill."

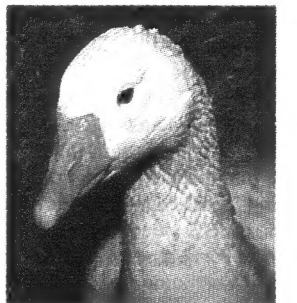
The diapering came about by trial and error after trying to pen Mary in a corner.

Using newspaper as bedding proved a messy disaster. The diaper (readily available in the diaper aisle at Safeway, size 3) needs only a little extra tape (not duct) to do the trick. Mary also got her own bathtub to sleep in, covered with a screen when she's confined to quarters.

There are clear advantages to owning Mary. "We get breakfast laid on," says Tanya. Mary usually lays an egg in the tub each morning, but has been known to stop in her tracks waiting for someone to retrieve one from her diaper.

"But very seriously," says Tanya, the No. 1 reason to own a duck is "she keeps me laughing all the time and not just me, all of us."

For a sample of the type of concert Mary enjoys each morning, go to www.ualberta.ca/~aprochaz/billy2.ra.



Craig the backyard goose. Craig lost her partner recently to foul play—coyotes are suspected.

folio **back**
page